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'Jews will be barred from holy sites under PA control'

JON IMMANUEL

Jews will not be permitted to pray at the tombs of biblical patriarchs once the sites come under Palestinian control, Palestinian Religious Affairs Minister Hassan Tabboub said yesterday. Tabboub told *The Jerusalem Post* he was specifically referring to the Ibrahim Mosque—the Machpelah Cave—in Hebron, which is currently partitioned between Jewish and Muslim worshippers. In an interview with *The Associated Press*, he also referred to Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem and Joseph's Tomb in Nablus.

Tabboub claimed the sites were Moslem property, and that forbidding Jewish prayer there reflected Islamic dogma. "It is not a matter of politics but of religion," he said. "We will not allow Jews or Christians to pray in our mosques." He added, however, that this could be subject to negotiations.

With regard to Rachel's Tomb, Tabboub told *The Post* the issue is less clear. There is a mosque and a Moslem cemetery on its grounds, but the tomb itself is not a mosque. "I do not have all the details," he said. It is not clear that Tabboub was expressing Palestinian policy. Hisham Abdel Razek, a senior PLO official, said Yasser Arafat's government would guarantee freedom of worship and access for Jews and Christians in all areas under its control.

Other Palestinian Authority ministers, however, such as Telecommunications Minister Abdul Hafiz Ashab of Hebron, have also said that Jews will not be allowed to pray in the Machpelah Cave if the PA assumes control over it. Under the emerging autonomy accord, the IDF is to leave Nablus and Bethlehem and may also withdraw from parts of Hebron. Israel insists that the holy sites



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin speaks at Babi Yar yesterday in front of a menorah erected in 1991 on the 50th anniversary of the Nazi killings there. (Tzvi Israel/Government Press Office)

Rabin in Ukraine: Nuclear sales to Iran worrisome

News agencies

KIEV — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed concern yesterday over the export of Russian nuclear technology to Iran, but stopped short of criticizing Ukraine for reported arms sales to the Middle East.

"I wish wish no one would sell arms to Arab countries not at peace with Israel. But I can't ignore that arms sales are carried out to the Middle East by the whole world," Rabin told a news conference in Kiev.

Rabin is scheduled to visit Russia today on a half-day leg of his Ukrainian trip. He said the visit was initiated by the Russian side. "Israel is very worried about Russia selling reactors to Iran, and the more Russia meets with Iran, the more worried we become," he said.

Moscow has a \$800 million contract to complete a nuclear plant at Bushehr in Iran, and another agreement allowing it to put two additional 440-megawatt reactors at the site.

Some media reports claim Russia has a secret deal to supply reactors for military use. Russia and Iran deny it, and say their accords have no military value, but both the United States and

Israel are skeptical.

"Russia turned to Israel to discuss definite questions. I told them I have an official visit to Ukraine and that afterwards I would come to Russia for half a day to answer [their] questions," Rabin said.

Earlier in the day, Rabin spoke at the site of Nazi horrors at Babi Yar, and warned that a new wave of antisemitism threatened Jews throughout the world. Making the first visit to post-Soviet Ukraine by an Israeli leader, Rabin stood with head bowed at the suburban ravine where Nazi troops slaughtered 33,771 Jews on September 29-30, 1941.

"Today we face a growing threat of antisemitism in many countries. We must be vigilant and understand the threat posed to Jews," Rabin said in Hebrew, next to a small menorah erected in 1991 on the 50th anniversary of the killings.

"We could once again see victims and new crimes against the Jewish people. We must smash the head of this dreadful disease which is antisemitism. Otherwise our people will again come under

threat."

Rabin acknowledged that there had been improvements in the international climate, "but we cannot forget the dreadful pages of the history of the Jewish people so that they never again will be repeated."

The Kiev visit has considerable symbolic importance by cementing the great improvement in relations between Jews and Ukrainians, once blighted by Tsarist pogroms, Nazi collaboration and Soviet-era discrimination.

Rabin shook the hands of several Jews who escaped the killings, some by chance, some by the efforts of Ukrainians who concealed them from the occupiers.

"As we were being led here, I went and hid in a cellar," said Vasily Mikhailovich. "After the German guards had gone, I ran off and lived in an orphanage. My entire family had been shot."

Leaders of Ukraine's 500,000-strong Jewish community, the world's fifth largest, say they enjoy excellent relations with Ukraine's post-Soviet leadership. Antisemitism, they say, is confined to a small, if vocal, minority of extreme nationalists in western Ukraine.

Rabin: PA refusal to extradite killers not an Oslo violation

SARAH HONG and JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Authority's decision not to extradite the Wadi Kelt terrorists but to put them on trial does not violate the Cairo Agreement, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told reporters in Kiev last night.

On Monday night, a secret PLO military tribunal sentenced the two Palestinians to 12 years in prison for incitement, apparently to prevent their extradition to Israel. The two men are sought by the government on suspicion they killed two hikers in Wadi Kelt on July 18.

An emergency meeting is to take place this morning between Justice Minister David Liba'i and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who is acting prime minister, on whether the release of Palestinian prisoners will be linked to the PA abiding by Israeli extradition requests.

At a briefing for the press in Ukraine, Rabin clarified that a clause was added to the agreement which states that if the PA brings a person to trial, Israel's request for extradition will only be valid once this person's punishment has been served. Therefore, by bringing the terrorists to trial itself, the PA has not violated the extradition agreement.

"The issue is complex and there is no doubt in my mind that the PA should ensure that the territory under its authority will not be used as a base for terrorist attacks against Israel or serve as a shelter for terrorists," said Rabin.

PA Attorney-General Khalid al-Qidrah said in Gaza that no demand was received either formally or informally to extradite Youssef and Shahr Ra'i, who fled to Jericho a month ago. Israel believes the two men murdered Ohad Bachrach, 18, and Ori Shalom, 20, while they were hiking in Wadi Kelt. Reports after the murder said the killers had fled to nearby Jericho.

Liba'i initiated the top-level talks yesterday, following what he angrily termed "the mock tri-

als staged by the PLO to avoid the need to hand over suspects to Israel. The result is that Gaza and Jericho are turned into safe havens for those who have murdered Israelis, and the Palestinian Authority is single-handedly creating for itself the image of supporting the murder of Israelis and abetting the murderers. A situation has now arisen which Israel cannot abide."

The PA denied yesterday that it tried and convicted the two men to thwart attempts to have them transferred for trial in Israel.

Asked whether the fast trial in a military security court was meant to preempt an extradition request, al-Qidrah told *The Jerusalem Post*, "We haven't any evidence that they killed anybody, but we had evidence that they used force and violence against the policy of the Palestinian Authority."

The charges against the two, who are members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, did not specifically refer to actions against Israelis, and were phrased as — "disturbing the public order and incitement against the peace process." Al-Qidrah said he would today find out the specific charges against them.

Israel says 13 wanted men are in hiding in Jericho, but al-Qidrah said he has received only seven formal extradition requests for Jericho and Gaza. These were presented by Liba'i to PA Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein in a meeting last week. Those seven did not include the Ra'is.

The latest case has aroused Israeli fury because a Hamas activist, Abdel-Majid Dadein, was sentenced last month to 12 years in prison on vague charges of undermining Palestinian security. Israel had said it suspected him of involvement in planning the Jerusalem suicide bus bombing that killed four. However, his name was not either among the seven passed by Liba'i to Abu Medein, according to a list prepared by Peace Watch, a monitoring group.

The Post has learned that one of the immediate sanctions the government is considering is a freeze on releases of Arab prisoners. The freeze will apply for as long as the wanted murderers are not handed over for trial in Israel. However, Liba'i said yesterday there is no formal linkage between the two issues.

However, a de facto linkage is seen as the most minimal move the government can take.

The ongoing refusal to extradite terror suspects is seen by high-level government sources as the worst possible damage that can be inflicted on the peace process, apart from the terror attacks themselves.

This is because the PA authority is thus seen as an active accomplice to terror, which puts enormous domestic pressure on the government.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal underscored this message last night, saying "there is a direct linkage between freeing convicted terrorists and the extradition of wanted terrorists. The Palestinian side cannot expect one thing to happen without the other."

The reaction from Labor ministers yesterday was one of anger. Housing Minister Binjamin Ben-Eliezer said "the Palestinian Authority is guilty of a very flagrant violation of the agreement with it. There is no other way to describe it, and there is no point of papering over this fact."

Labor coalition chairman Ra'anan Cohen called on the government "not to free any more Arab prisoners and not to transfer any more authority in the territories to the PLO until the Palestinian Authority wakes up and lives up to its part of the bargain."

"They can't expect to only receive and never to deliver on anything they promised."

But the coalition did not speak with one voice yesterday. While Labor was furious and worried about the effect on public opinion, Meretz evinced some understanding for the PLO.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid (Continued on Page 2)

Two different definitions of extradition

BACKGROUND

JON IMMANUEL

THE article in the Cairo Accord referring to extradition is one of the most problematic sections of the accord, and not only because it points up clear differences between Israeli sovereignty and the Palestinian lack of it.

Even the term "extradition," which refers to agreements between states at peace, is not used, because that would reinforce the impression of Palestinian sovereignty. Therefore the term "transfer" is used, and although it tries to suggest the two sides have the same understanding of peace, it clearly falls short of applying the same rules to both sides.

Annex 3, Article 2, clause 7 on transfer of suspects allows Israel to demand the transfer of any individual suspected of an offense falling under Israeli criminal jurisdiction. The Palestinian Authority is permitted only to request the transfer of non-Israelis.

Palestinian legal interpreters say that de jure, Israeli criminal jurisdiction falls only within the 1967 borders. Everything outside that area is under de facto jurisdiction only. Therefore, argues Al-Haq, the Ramallah-based legal group, Israel has no right to ask for the transfer/extradition of the Jerusalem bus suicide bombers because the bombing took place in Ramat Eshkol, which "falls within territories that Israel occupied in 1967." The same logic applies to the Wadi Kelt killers.

Israel's interpretation of its legal jurisdiction clearly applies everywhere outside Gaza and Jericho. But politically and emotionally, the PA is incapable of judging someone who attacks soldiers in Hebron as culpable as someone who kills women and children in Tel Aviv. Even then, it charges culprits with "harming the peace process" rather than attacking Israelis.

Israel's interpretation means that a killer like Baruch Gold-

stein in Hebron, had he lived, could not have been "transferred" to the PA for trial. If he had opened fire in Gaza and successfully escaped, he could not have been "transferred" back to Gaza for trial.

But even if all the conditions are fulfilled and a Palestinian killer in Tel Aviv is apprehended in Gaza, the PA still has the option of jailing him on a totally unrelated charge or with no charges at all. Clause 7(2) says: "If the individual requested is detained in custody or is serving a prison sentence, the side receiving the request may delay the transfer to the requesting side for the duration of the imprisonment."

The delay would often mean the transfer request would be nullified, since international norms forbid sentencing someone twice for the same offense. If the requested fugitive is jailed for one offense, Israel can request at the end of his term that he be transferred on another charge. But the Palestinian charges are phrased in such a general way, such as "harming the peace accords," that they can be said to cover more specific charges, like blowing up Israelis.

Al-Haq argues that even if an offender fulfilled all the conditions for transfer and was not in jail, the PA could argue that Israel's request is invalid since it does "not comply with internationally accepted norms of human rights."

It cites Israel's use of "moderate physical pressure" to extract the kind of information from prisoners that often gives it the evidence to file extradition requests in the first place.

Perhaps the best solution to the whole issue was offered by a Jericho poker player yesterday. "Let the Palestinians try the ones they catch. Let the Israelis try the ones they catch."

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid seemed to agree that the transfer agreement is really meant to compel the PA to take action itself. "If they sit in jail for 12 years, it is not so important which jail," he said.

Report: Israel, Iran have medium-range missiles

ALON PINKAS

ISRAEL, Iran and Saudi Arabia all have medium-range missiles, while Syria has enough launchers to fire large quantities of surface-to-surface missiles, some of which can be armed with non-conventional warheads, the Congressional Research Office says, in a report published in Washington yesterday.

The report says Israel has 50 Jericho-2 missiles with a 1,450-km range that can carry a one-ton warhead.

In addition, the report lists Israel as having 50 Jericho-1 missiles capable of traveling 480 km. The Israeli arsenal includes a jet-engine Delfin missile, co-produced with China and capable of reaching 400-km., according to the report.

In May, *The Jerusalem Post*

quoted June's edition of *The Risk Report* that Israeli-made Jericho-2 missiles, developed as a derivative of the Shavit civilian missile used to launch the Ofek-3 satellite, are capable of reaching over 1,500 km while carrying an approximately 500-kg military payload. *The Risk Report* is the newsletter of the Washington-DC based Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control.

The congressional report says Syria, Libya and Iran are all capable of distracting and damaging US anti-missile defense systems. As for Iran, the report confirms several previous reports that Teheran has North Korean-made No Dong-1 surface-to-surface missiles, capable of reaching 1300 km. with a 1,000 kg. payload.

Syria, according to the report, has 50 Scud-C missiles (600 km. range) and 100 Scud-B missiles mounted on 24 batteries. The Scud-B has a 300 km. range. In addition, Syria has between 24 and 36 Soviet-made short range (70 km.) SS-21 missiles.

Christopher: I haven't abandoned Israel-Syrian peace efforts

News agencies

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Warren Christopher insisted yesterday that he had not abandoned Israeli-Syrian peace efforts and asserted that "considerable progress" could be made on that front before year's end.

In an interview with wire service and radio reporters, Christopher acknowledged that the present is not an "up period" in the negotiations but insisted: "No, we have not given up. We are determined to try to help the parties make progress."

Meanwhile Jordan and Spain urged Syria yesterday to pursue a swift settlement with Israel so that a comprehensive peace can prevail in the Middle East. "It is imperative that the peace process pick up in places where negotiations are deadlocked," said Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, at a joint news conference with King Hussein.

Hussein praised Syria for accepting an invitation to attend a meeting in Barcelona next November on the development of the Mediterranean in which Israel will take part.

Hapoel Beersheba trounced at home 7-0 by Barcelona

HAPOEL Beersheba, playing in what was billed as the most important soccer match in the city's history, suffered one of their most humiliating defeats at the hands of Spanish giants Barcelona last night. The Beershebans, playing in a UEFA Cup first-round game, were no match for the Catalanian

giants, who notched a 7-0 victory over the home side.

President Ezer Weizman was a spectator of honor among the 15,000 fans who turned out to watch the match at Beersheba's renovated municipal stadium.

Ori Lewis

Full story, Page 10



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Anti-Oslo protesters plan to block roads

HERB KEINON
and BILL HUTMAN

A SIT-IN in front of the prime minister's residence, a march from the American Consulate to the President's Residence, and blocking roads for a couple of minutes are the protest activities scheduled today to mark the second anniversary of the signing of the Oslo accords.

Zo Artzenu, which last month blocked roads around the country for two hours, is planning to block roads for two minutes at 5:30 this afternoon. Supporters have been instructed to stop their cars in the middle of the road and honk their horns, "in memory of the slain victims of Oslo-1."

Following this, they have been told to drive "slowly" from around the country to Jerusalem to join in a sit-in near the prime minister's house. Over 2,000 policemen are to be deployed in Jerusalem.

Police issued a stern warning last night that Zo Artzenu's planned activities are illegal and stringent measures would be taken to keep the peace.

"We look upon the calls for disturbances very gravely," police spokesman Adi Gonen said in a statement. "In a democratic state it is unacceptable that citizens will openly ignore the law, in an attempt to disturb the normal conduct of life."

"We will take strong measures to lessen the ill-effects the disturbances are expected to have on the public at large, and will bring to lawbreakers to justice," Gonen said.

He added, however, that police have been ordered to use force only when absolutely necessary, and after the go-ahead has been given by commanders in the field.

Gonen also made an unprecedented appeal to the public not to participate in the demonstrations, saying manpower being diverted to deal with them could be better used in the fight against terror.

"In our country there are many ways to protest, and there is no need for provocations and disturbances," he said.

The Women in Green, meanwhile, are planning a march from the American Consulate to the President's Residence, with participants instructed to pound on pots and pans.

Zo Artzenu head Moshe Feiglin said at a press conference yesterday that protesters have been advised to bring their gas masks to the demonstrations in case the police try to disperse them with tear gas. He also said that many of the protesters will come with their hands tied to prove that they are not violent.

Feiglin said that if the police stop people from going to the prime minister's home, they will sit in the middle of the roads.

A senior police source dismissed allegations that there were plans to use tear gas, although other riot-control methods, including water cannons and mounted policemen, would be used if necessary.

Regarding whether blocking the roads will not turn the public against the movement and its cause, Feiglin said, "We are not trying to be nice. We are through being propellers."

Feiglin was referring to a comment Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin made two years ago, likening demonstrators to propellers who don't "move me an inch."

Feiglin said that the group is also going to set up a "committee of inquiry" to examine what he



A child lights a candle at a remembrance service in Jerusalem's Nahalat Shiva for victims of terrorism murdered since the Oslo peace accords were signed two years ago, one of many such memorials held across the country. (Brian Hender)

dubbed the government's crimes. "The junta will be brought to trial for their crimes one day," Feiglin said. He said the "committee" in a series of public hearings, will begin looking into police violence, and the government's "crimes against security and Judaism."

Next Monday, in a project

called Vote with Lights, the movement is calling on people to turn on and off their lights at a coordinated time in the evening. "Rabin knows how to read the meters at the Electric Company, and they will tell him of the strength of his opposition," reads the leaflet explaining the action. The same leaflet calls on peo-

ple to prepare alternative lighting for a few minutes after the operation, in case of problems when the lights are turned back on. *Jim adds:* A scuffle broke out between Hadas MK Hashem Mahameed and his entourage, and right-wing demonstrators near Orient House in east Jerusalem. Accord-

ing to Mahameed, one demonstrator punched him and another spit at him.

Police said that those accompanying Mahameed fought with the demonstrators as well. Border policemen separated the two groups. One demonstrator and one of Mahameed's aides were arrested.

Memorials for victims of terror

HERB KEINON

MEMORIAL services organized by the Right were held last night at some 40 sites around the country where 149 Jews were killed by terrorists since the Oslo agreement was signed.

The services were protests to mark the second anniversary of the signing of the accord.

"Another Oslo, and we are lost," said a sign at the service held at the site of last month's Ramat Eshkol bombing in Jerusalem. Some 200 people attended the service, where Psalms were recited, torches were lit, and anti-government speeches delivered. Similar services were held from Hadera to Kochav Ya'acov, from Ramat Gan to Kfar Darom.

National Religious Party MK Yigal Bibi said that rather than going to Babi Yar and speaking about the need to be vigilant in the face of threats to Jews, Rabin should have stayed home and "taught himself that lesson. You, Rabin, come here and be the head of state, the whole state, and not just a small part of it."

"Nothing will help you," Bibi said. "We will not allow for cities in the heart of Israel to be turned into cities of refuge for murderers. Our people are sensitive to blood; we will not allow the blood of innocents to be spilled."

Among those who spoke was Iyov Kara, a Druse from Daliat al-Carmel, whose brother was killed during his IDF service. "The Jewish people have to decide whether they have come to build democracy, or build a state," he said.

A number of policemen were on hand to ensure that the people did not spill over from the sidewalk into the street. No incidents were reported.

Aharon Domb, spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said that in Hadera, youths who wanted to demonstrate in front of the police station there were dissuaded from doing so. The only violence he reported anywhere was stones thrown at two buses coming from a ceremony in Kochav Ya'acov, south of Ramatli.

Hammer: Oslo will backfire

THE Oslo process is going against history and in the end it will backfire on its initiators, National Religious Party leader Zevulun Hammer said yesterday.

Addressing the NRP convention in Jerusalem, Hammer said that implementing Oslo-2 would be a dangerous gamble with the fate of Israel and could lead to a disaster.

Hammer compared the Oslo accords to the 1990 "stinking maneuver," when then Labor Party leader Shimon Peres abandoned the national unity government and tried to form an alternative government. Peres failed, however, and the Likud formed a government without the left-wing.

In the present situation, Hammer said, the government must call for elections or at least hold a referendum before expanding Palestinian autonomy.

"The people deserve to decide on Oslo-2 as much as they do on the Golan. If the government doesn't do so it will be responsible for a terrible rift in the nation," he said.

(Jim)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Group demands prisoner list

Members of the Victims of Arab Terror group demonstrated yesterday in front of Justice Ministry headquarters, to protest Justice Minister David Liba's refusal to give them a list of prisoners in Israeli jails who have committed acts of terror.

The group has petitioned the High Court of Justice to get the list, but a date for a hearing has not been set. The group wants to be able to monitor whether prisoners who have committed or attempted murder are, in fact, released under any agreement reached with the Palestinians.

The group is also demanding the Liba's insist the Palestinian Authority extradite those suspected of recent terror acts. *Jim*

Gaza court jails two

The Palestinian security court in Gaza yesterday sentenced Awad Silmi and Wael Nasser to five years in prison for planning violent acts.

Nasser was named by Israel before his capture as a suspected planner of a Hamas suicide bombing attack. Silmi, his partner, was said to be have been responsible for shooting attacks on Israelis before the signing of the Oslo accords.

The two were arrested by the Palestinian Police during a raid in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza City on August 18. Policemen had to fire tear gas to disperse angry neighbors who attacked them during the raid. *Jon Immanuel*

Rabbis blast Reform curriculum

Rabbis attending a Jerusalem conference yesterday blasted plans to introduce chapters on Reform and Conservative Judaism into the school curriculum.

"The Jewish nature of the state is getting weaker," Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron said. "Jewish education is changing its form," he added, saying it is being dressed up in a "foreign" dress.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau told the conference, "We are living in very difficult times," and said that things would be easier if the ministries that have a say in religious matters were peopled by those who come from movements rabbis are listened to. *Herb Keinon*

Fatah officer killed

The body of a Fatah officer was found yesterday near a south Lebanese refugee camp and security sources said he was stabbed to death.

They said Lebanese troops discovered the bloodied body of Maarouf Abu Hamadeh, 40, in the early morning on the seashore near Rashidiyyeh camp, just south of Tyre. *Reuter*

Mubarak, Arafat on expulsions

CAIRO (Reuter) - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday to press him to intervene with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi to stop the expulsion of thousands of Palestinians, officials said.

Arafat and Mubarak did not speak to journalists at the end of their hour-long talk in Alexandria. Hundreds of Palestinians, expelled this month to punish their leaders for making peace with Israel, have been stranded on the Egyptian-Libyan border. *Reuter*

JEWIS

(Continued from Page 1) remain under its control, while the Palestinians demand that they be handed over as part of the autonomy agreement.

Tahboub's remarks elicited a strong response from Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau. Speaking at

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. The Rotary District Governor Abraham Schlesinger will visit the club.

a rabbinical conference in Jerusalem yesterday, Lau said the government is proud enough, the army strong enough, and the Jewish people determined enough to ensure that the holy sites remain "ours forever."

"The treatment we have shown over the last 28 years, with free access to the places holy to other religions, is what should dictate the reality in the future, and not [the treatment] by those who destroyed 47 synagogues in [Jerusalem's] Old City, and did not even give us access to the Western Wall for 19 years." *Herb Keinon contributed to this report.*

Taba meeting may be stalled

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE Taba meeting scheduled today between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is not certain to take place because secondary issues are still being hammered out, Israeli officials in Eilat said last night.

Among the differences are questions over the exact territorial areas that delineate Palestinian jurisdiction, as self-rule is expanded. Last week Palestinians said there were differences of between 25 percent and 40 percent

in certain areas mapped out by Israel.

The officials and others close to the negotiations said there was a need to resolve all secondary issues before Peres and Arafat tackled such crucial questions as Hebron. Some suggest that if Arafat receives Israeli concessions on Hebron, he will be willing to be flexible on other remaining key issues.

One official in Eilat denied

that the Peres-Arafat meeting was being held up because of the Palestinian Authority's failure to extradite two suspected terrorists.

Both sides were hoping to wrap up talks by the end of the week, enabling them to hold a White House signing ceremony. There has been speculation that the White House event would take place next Wednesday, followed by a meeting of those countries contributing to the Palestinians cause on the next day.

Delegates storm out of refugee talks

AMMAN (AP) - Differences over the definition of "displaced" prevailed yesterday as Israeli and Arab delegates discussed the fate of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who fled their homes in the Six Day War.

Palestinian and Israeli representatives stormed out of a conference hall at an Amman hotel, leaving behind Jordanian and Egyptian officials who also are participating in the two-day gathering, which ends today.

They returned to the meeting hall an hour later, met briefly and later adjourned the talks until this morning.

Zuhdi Saeed, head of the Palestinian team to the talks, accused the Israeli side of "inflexibility."

(Continued from Page 1)

Saeed spoke of what is "basically a misunderstanding. The clauses about extradition have been shown to be the weak link in the peace agreement and clarifications are necessary. I am sure that when the prime minister returns to the country we will reach a happy medium with [PLO Chairman Yasser] Arafat."

As Saeed sees it, "formally speaking, the PLO is abiding by the agreement, which was meant to assure that terrorists will not walk free, and these men are after all in jail. We could not live with a situation in which they are allowed to go free, but so long as they are jailed it doesn't matter if it is by us or by them. The situation is complex."

"After all, when we catch to Halhoul murderers, will we hand them over? I think not."

The Knesset will take up the matter next Wednesday, after the Likud and other opposition parties submit the necessary signatures to call the Knesset into special session during the recess. Labor and Meretz have asked to convene the House to take up the Halhoul murder.

The opposition was seething yesterday at the news from Jericho.

Likud Chairman Benjamin Ne-

Omair Khatib, chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization mission here and a participant in the meeting, said Israel "is dodging from recognizing the principle of the right of return of displaced Palestinians."

Khatib said the Palestinian side insisted that the displaced include all those who were outside the territories before June 5, 1967 and "could not return to their homes because of the prevailing conditions or because Israeli restrictions on renewing their residency permits."

"The people in this category are estimated at several tens of thousands," Khatib told The Associated Press.

Yosef Hadas, head of the Is-

raeli team, said Israel's definition of displaced Palestinians is all those who "were residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip during 1967 and were displaced during the six-day fighting as a result of the fighting."

Yesterday's meeting was the fourth since March 7, when the foreign ministers of the four parties failed to make much headway.

Israel estimates that around 200,000 Palestinians were displaced from the West Bank and Gaza during the 1967 war, while the PLO says the number of displaced, including descendants, now stands at nearly 900,000, the bulk of them living in Jordan and the remainder in Egypt, Syria and Lebanon.

after our population."

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan wants the IDF sent in to Jericho, "in order to kill the murderers. Let's face it, this pair is not even in prison. This is all a joke, and the PLO is having a big laugh at our expense. If the two are not extradited, then all talks with the PLO should be immediately broken off, including all negotiations on water rights, electricity and all the perks we are ready to bestow upon our enemies."

IPO plays for Peres in Versailles

THE Israel Philharmonic, conducted by Zubin Mehta, played in the Palace of Versailles Opera House yesterday before a glittering and appreciative audience which included Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

After the concert, which featured 15-year-old Chinese violinist Sara Chang, all sat down to a \$1,000 per couple banquet in Louis XIV's great banquet hall. The benefit was for both the IPO and the Weizmann Institute. *Helen Kaye*

IDF warned extradition was dubious

ALON PINKAS

FOLLOWING the signing of the Oslo Accords and the Cairo Agreement, the IDF Intelligence Branch warned the political echelons that the Palestinian Authority would be reluctant to extradite terror suspects, Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, assistant head of the Intelligence Branch for research, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

Amidror's appearance before the committee coincided with the two-year anniversary of the signing of the Oslo Accords and the PA's refusal to extradite the two suspects in the Wadi Kelt murders in July. Amidror said no one should be surprised.

"We warned that they would not agree to Israeli extradition requests," Amidror was quoted as saying by one participant.

However, he said, allegations that Arafat is instigating terror are unfounded. "Arafat is not encouraging terror, and in fact he is doing as best he can to pressure Hamas into ceasing all terrorist activities," Amidror said.

If Israel is intent on negotiating a settlement with the Palestinians, then Arafat is the partner, Amidror reportedly said. "In Madrid we indirectly negotiated with Arafat, and if a settlement is a goal, then Arafat is the man to negotiate it with," he added.

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Travelers to E. Europe advised to get shots

JUDY SIEGEL

TRAVELERS to eastern Europe and the CIS are advised to visit the nearest district health office for advice on vaccinations due to an epidemic of diphtheria in the region.

The Health Ministry says 47,000 cases of the disease were reported last year in the former Soviet Union, and 1,700 of the victims died. The World Health Organization expects 150,000 more cases this year in eastern Europe.

Because of the growing number of former immigrants from this region who make visits to their native countries, the ministry wants them to get advice about vaccinations.

Not a single diphtheria case has been reported here since 1988. But those who travel to the infected area are at risk for infection, and are advised to get the double TD vaccine.



Canadian Ambassador David Berger shares a toast with President Ezer Weizman after presenting his credentials yesterday. Also presenting credentials were Polish Ambassador Wolichet Adamietzki and Moldavian Ambassador Michai Balan.

(Isaac Harari)

Hospital workers threaten sanctions

JUDY SIEGEL

GOVERNMENT hospital clerks and maintenance workers are threatening sanctions again, this time before Rosh Hashana.

Union heads will meet tomorrow to discuss their plans for a strike over the "refusal" of the Health and Finance ministries to implement recommendations of the Padeh Committee for equalizing salary scales in Kupat Holim-Clalit and government hospitals.

Two months ago, the hospital workers carried out two weeks of sanctions, which were halted when the government promised to negotiate. However, the union claims these talks have gotten nowhere.

The Health Ministry spokeswoman, Yifat Ben-Hai, said that a number of working sessions have been held between ministry officials and the Civil Service Commission.

"The position of the employers is positive in the framework of budgetary constraints," she said. Meanwhile, negotiations between the government and representatives of 2,000 Health Ministry workers who held a 10-day strike earlier recently have also gotten nowhere.

The union, which promised to give a two-week respite before resuming sanctions, said it was not satisfied with Treasury offers.

Indyk attends J'lem 3000 celebration in New York

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

HE was in town. He was free for the evening. And there was a party at a mansion on the East River. So, although Martin Indyk, the US ambassador to Israel, was missing last week at the official opening of Jerusalem 3000, he was the unheralded guest Monday night when New York opened its celebration of the Israeli capital.

At a reception hosted by New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, it was clear that Indyk's participation was, at best, an 11th-hour plan. The ceremony was under way as the mayor's aides scrambled to arrange the platform for Indyk to join Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. UN Ambassador Gad Ya'acobi and Consul General Colette Avital.

Olmert and Giuliani were clearly tickled with each other's company, while the American ambassador sat through the songs and speeches looking uncharacteristically grim. He did not address the hundreds of guests on the riverfront lawn of Grace Mansion, the mayor's official residence.

After last week's no-show, Indyk had said there would be other opportunities to participate in Jerusalem 3000 events.

One of those presented itself Monday night. It was only hours before the event, sponsored by the Israeli consulate and the Jewish Community Relations Council, that the mayor's office learned that Indyk wanted to attend.

Olmert and Avital, still smarting over Indyk's absence last week, preferred not to share the date with the ambassador, who has been a favorite in the New York Jewish community, some insiders said. "But there was no reason why Indyk shouldn't be there," one source said.

The ambassador, in New York to address local business leaders about investment in Israel, said yesterday that events need to be kept in perspective. This is a cultural and historic celebration, in which the US is participating "at the appropriate levels."

"Jerusalem 3000 was to promote tourism, and it is not necessary to turn it into a test of Zionism," Indyk said, adding that many Jewish organizations were represented by less than their "top people."

A hostel for Holocaust survivors

Some 1,300 Holocaust survivors are institutionalized in psychiatric hospitals, and 1,000 of them have been there for at least a year.

This was disclosed yesterday by Health Minister Ephraim

Sneh, who attended the cornerstone-laying ceremony for a new hostel for troubled survivors.

The hostel to be built at the Be'er Ya'acov Psychiatric Hospital will have 100 beds for Holocaust survivors. Judy Siegel

Drunk driver caught twice

A Holon man who had just finished a prison sentence for drunk driving was caught again on Monday, and sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment by the Tel Aviv Traffic Court yesterday.

Yuri Kimche, 32, was stopped by police for a routine inspection while driving in the Holon industrial area. Police discovered that he was driving drunk and his license had been suspended in December for the same offense. A few weeks ago, he was released from jail for good behavior. Iam

Support of Oslo Accords drops among US Jews

JACOB DALLAL

A MAJORITY of American Jews continue to support the peace process, though the number has declined since the signing of the Oslo Accords, according to a survey released yesterday.

The survey, conducted by the American Jewish Committee to coincide with the second anniversary of the Israel-PLO accord, shows that 68% of US Jews support the peace process, down from 84% when the agreement was signed.

"The drop in support among American Jews for the peace process mirrors the drop in support among Israelis: the continued terror attacks and disappointment with the implementation of the accord," said Joseph Alpher, director of the Israel office of the AJC, at a news conference yesterday. Not all Jewish groups support the peace process: 64% of Orthodox Jews oppose, with only 31% supporting it.

The poll was conducted in August among 1,000 respondents, demographically representative of the Jewish adult population. There was a 3% margin of error. Respondents were also skeptical

when it came to trusting the other side, according to the survey.

Ninety-one percent thought the Palestinian Authority wasn't doing enough to stop terror; 71% said the PA could not be relied upon to honor its agreements; and 51% said the Palestinians are not interested in a lasting peace with Israel.

Sixty-three percent said the US shouldn't give financial aid to the Palestinians, and 50% opposed aid to Jordan, though the peace treaty with Jordan was hailed by three-quarters of respondents.

Regarding Syria, 33% said Israel should not agree to give any of the Golan to Syria; 54% were in favor of giving up some or only a small part, and only 5% favored giving up most or all of it.

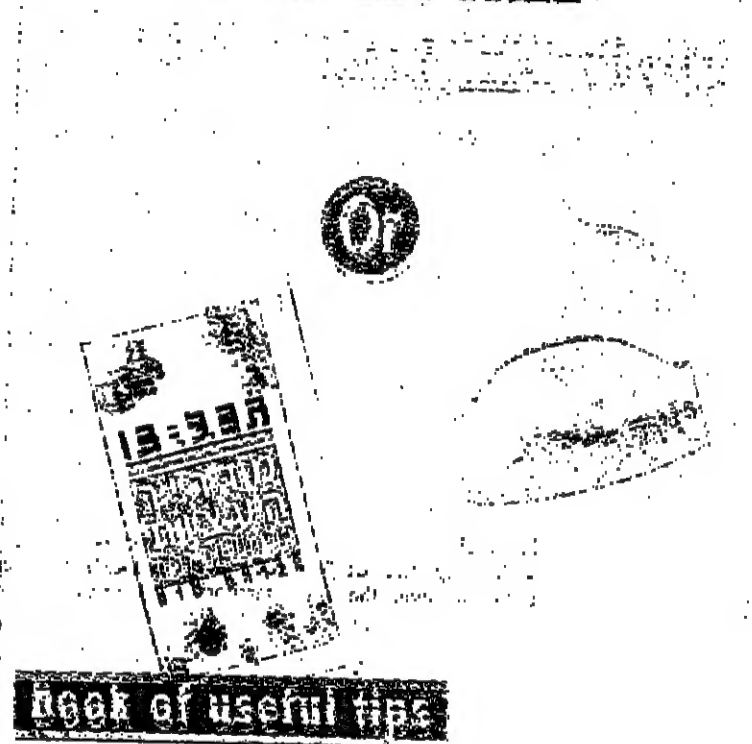
People were nearly split on the question of US participating in a Golan peace-keeping force: 49% were in favor and 45% were opposed. But 87% support the US role in the Middle East peace process. Asked whether "the goal of the Arabs is not the return of the occupied territories but the destruction of Israel," 56% said yes, while 37% felt it was not.

What year was Israel founded?

IN what appears to be a new twist on the definition of hutzpah, the AJC poll found that while 71% of those surveyed felt they had a right to publicly criticize Israel's policies, almost half of American Jewry did not know when Israel was established. Sixty-four percent could not answer correctly what year Israel took control of the territories, and 47% did not know what year the state gained independence. Finally, 53% were not sure if Shimon Peres and Binyamin Netanyahu belonged to the same party, while 7% thought they did. J.D.

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Ozone hole is bigger than ever

GENEVA (Reuters) - United Nations experts reported yesterday that the biggest ever hole in the Earth's protective ozone layer had formed over Antarctica, threatening the globe with increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

The UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said the ozone decline, an annual feature of the Southern Hemisphere spring, was the most rapid on record at one per cent a day and covered an area the size of Europe.

And WMO special adviser Roman Bojkov told a news conference the trend - although predicted - reinforced arguments for developing countries and transition economies to cut their emissions of the ozone-destroying bromine chemical.

"The area with severely depleted ozone at present covers over 10 million sq km, about the size of Europe, and is twice the size of that during the 1993 and 1995 austral springs in the same period," a WMO announcement said.

The ozone layer absorbs and blocks most ultraviolet rays coming from the Sun.

Any sustained surge in radiation reaching the Earth, scientists say, inevitably leads to an increase in cancer in humans and animals and a reduction in crop yields, and could affect overall global food production.

Over Europe and North America total ozone decline since the late 1950s was some 10 per cent, which meant that around 15 per cent more radiation was reaching the Earth's surface there.

Tamil rebels killed in clash

COLOMBO (Reuters) - The Sri Lankan army massed on the northern Jaffna Peninsula stronghold of Tiger rebels killed 15 Tamil rebels as it prepared yesterday for a major offensive.

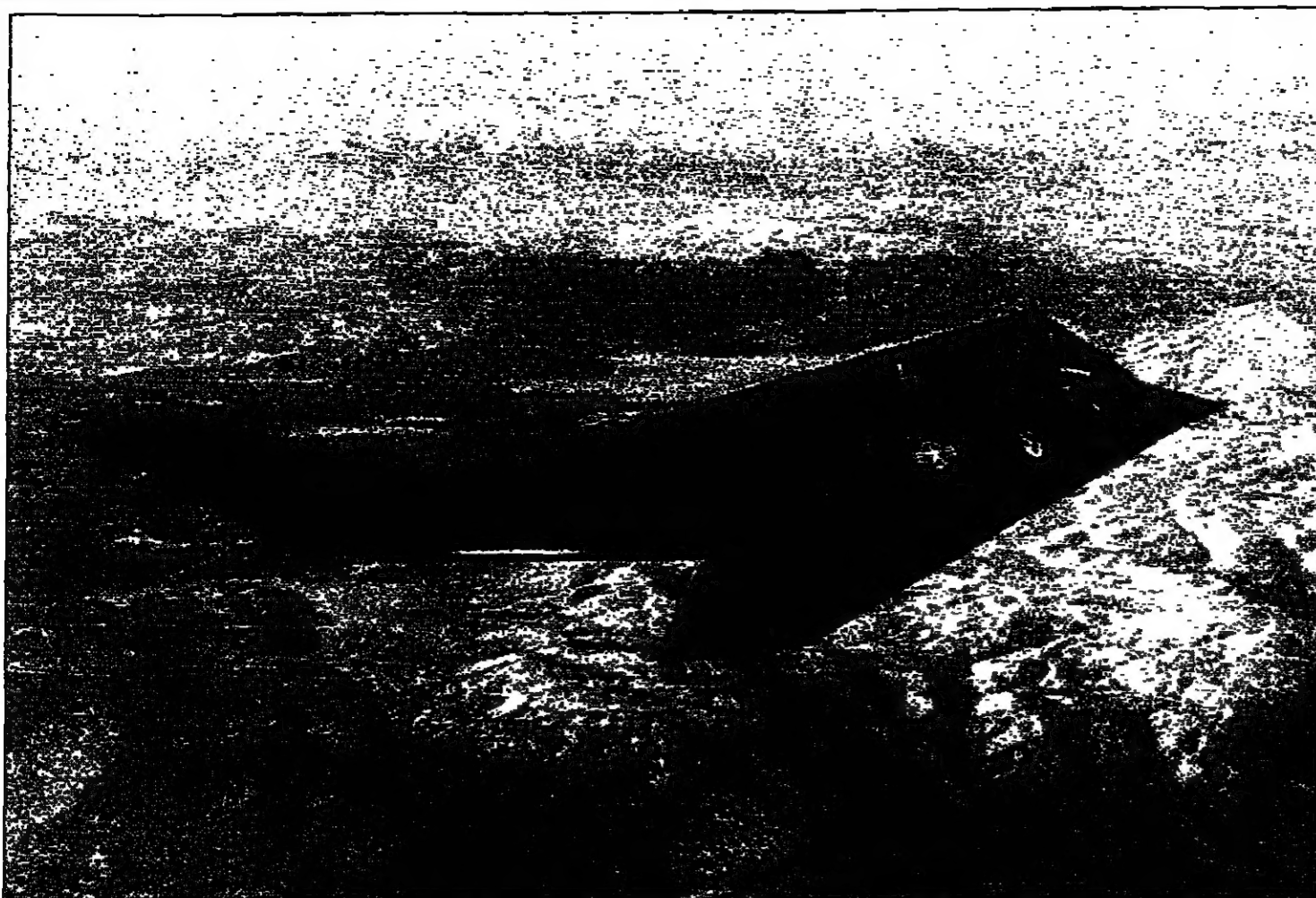
The army said two soldiers were killed when they confronted the rebels during an operation aimed at securing the strategic Palaly air base.

"Two brigades moved southwards from Palaly defenses towards Punnalaikkaduva, Elalai and Mallakam," the statement said, adding the operation was still under way.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had launched a mortar attack on the Palaly base on Sunday but did not cause any major damage.

The airport is regarded as the heart of the army's proposed assault on the headquarters of Tiger chief Velupillai Prabhakaran, expected before the monsoons arrive in October.

The Tigers have stepped up sneak attacks on security forces in Sri Lanka's eastern region, the country's food basket.



The United States hopes to gain swift approval from the Italian government to base its F-117A "Stealth" warplanes in Italy for use against Bosnian Serb targets. The aircraft above is over the Tonopah test range airfield in Nevada. (Reuters)

NATO keeps pounding Serbs despite tirade from Russia

News agencies
SARAJEVO

NATO warplanes picked off Bosnian Serb military targets around Sarajevo yesterday ignoring Russian pressure for a halt to air raids and a ceasefire in the war.

Russia's outcry of rage over the NATO air attacks intensified to the point of a cold war of words, with the Kremlin accusing the alliance of genocide against the Bosnian Serbs.

In a statement, the sharp-tongued Russian one-to-date, the government blamed the US-led bloc of killing Serb civilians, including children.

"Despite numerous protests, the NATO command is continuing to carry out bomb and rocket strikes against the Serb positions in Bosnia. As a result of this action, innocent civilians, including the most defenseless of them all, the children, are getting killed,"

the statement said.

Tinged with the vocabulary of Moscow nationalists, it said Russia could not be indifferent to "the tragic fate of the children of our brother-Slavs". "The survival of the present generation of Bosnian Serbs, which is threatened by genocide, is called into question," said the statement on the Inter-Tass agency.

NATO aircraft attacked ammunition dumps at Vugosca just northwest of Sarajevo causing explosions which could be heard clearly in Sarajevo.

The Russian Foreign Ministry, which wants an urgent UN Security Council debate on the air strikes, accused NATO of using the conflict as a testing ground for new techniques to impose its will

in Europe.

In Washington, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher avoided direct response when asked about fresh Russian criticism of the bombing campaign.

"It's in the hands of the Bosnian Serbs as to when this campaign can come to an end," he said during a meeting with Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic.

"NATO is determined to take firm action with respect to the Bosnian Serbs so long as they are in open violation of UN Security Council resolutions... I hope the Bosnian Serbs will come to their senses and realize that this is the time to take the steps to bring this bombing campaign to an end," Christopher said.

But US officials admit concern

over Russian criticism since the United States added its cruise missiles to the high-tech firepower pounding the Serbs.

But they also say that Washington is now planning to throw its radar-evading "Stealth" warplanes into the fight.

UN peacekeepers said the dividend of air strikes had been to make besieged Sarajevo safer.

Although suspected Serb gunfire wounded eight people on a bus in city on Monday, UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko said: "Sarajevo has become a much safer place than it was two weeks ago."

"NATO has declared war on the Serbs," Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said in an open letter to US President Bill Clinton, Russia's Boris Yeltsin and Britain's John Major.

Buckingham Palace is Britain's 'worst rip-off'

LONDON (AP) - Buckingham Palace is a tourist rip-off and some of Britain's other top attractions are also poor value for money, according to a report yesterday by Britain's leading consumers group.

Royal officials begged to differ.

The Consumers' Association said visitors to Buckingham Palace, London home of Queen Elizabeth II where admission charges for a family of four including guidebook total 29.50 pounds (NIS 136), get less value

for money than at any other top British heritage site.

The association's magazine *Holiday Which?* said Windsor Castle, the queen's weekend place 30 km west of London, the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral and Stonehenge are also poor value for money but not as bad as Buckingham Palace.

The report listed as good value the ancient Roman baths at Bath in western England, Dover Castle in southeast England, Edinburgh Castle in Scotland, Fountains Abbey in northern England

and Hampton Court Palace 15 km southwest of central London.

For a family of four, Windsor Castle charges NIS 100, the Tower of London NIS 101 and St. Paul's Cathedral NIS 65. The same family pays NIS 42 to walk round the prehistoric stone circle in the open air at Stonehenge 110 km west of London.

The report said: "The visit (to Buckingham Palace) takes two hours at most... You go through a dozen or so rooms of the queen's state apartments, of which the gallery has exceptional paintings.

"But there is no labeling and no other information, and it is difficult to cross-reference everything you see with the guidebook, especially with the crowds around. There is not enough on offer to justify the price."

Dickie Arbiter, spokesman for the Royal Collection Trust, the body responsible for tourism at the palace, retorted: "It's the visitors' opinions that count. Buckingham Palace had 420,000 visitors last year and over 90 percent of them indicated that they got value for money."

For the Chinese, it's no sex please

CHARLES HUTZLER
BEIJING

SEX, religion and political protest have highlighted the world women's gathering in China, but not the pages and airwaves of the Chinese media.

Chinese leaders have been content to play host, hoping the smooth conduct of the proceedings will raise their standing among foreign governments and China's people.

State-run media, whose official mission is to be the "throat of the Communist Party," have cheered the work being done at the United Nations women's conference, while paying only lip service to the debate.

In a typical report, the *People's Daily*, the party's premier paper, noted yesterday that conference Secretary-General Gertrude Mongella acknowledged some groups were complaining about being unable to influence the deliberations.

"Everyone is free to express their opinions, but in the end they must go through consultations to obtain unanimity," the newspaper quoted her as saying, without describing the differing viewpoints.

No specific mention was made of the breakthroughs negotiators reached on some of the most contentious issues: sexual freedom, abortion, the role of religion and the rights of teens.

Also ignored were the arguments between conservative and liberal countries about the language on sexual freedom and abortion.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian said yesterday that China's news coverage

was intended to help delegates, who are drafting a document promoting women's equality.

But China's leaders have another motive. They fear that reports on free-wheeling debate and demonstrations could encourage Chinese to challenge authority.

Tibetan exiles, along with human rights and lesbian groups, bore the brunt of heavy-handed surveillance and intimidation by Chinese security during a companion meeting of voluntary organizations, the NGO Forum, which ended Friday.

The protests, the overbearing policing and the behind-the-scenes conference debate have filled Western media reports.

Some of this information filters back to a small number of Chinese who listen to shortwave BBC and Voice of America broadcasts or can see CNN in international hotels.

For the most part, the wall the Chinese erected around the meetings seems to have held.

"Most Chinese are paying a lot of attention to the conference," fruit seller He Yongli said in tones reminiscent of the official line.

But she didn't know what was being debated.

"I have heard a lot of rumors," said Ma Yongying, a retired factory worker who sells crepe on a Beijing street corner. "But what's specifically being discussed, I don't know."

Ma thought the government organized the gatherings well. She said NGO participants who visited her stall told her "everything was fine."

Russian communists predict big comeback

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia's Communist Party said yesterday that it was set to make a comeback in a forthcoming election that could give a powerful hammer-and-sickle alliance domination of parliament but not the country.

Four years after a failed coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev brought an abrupt end to more than seven decades of rule by the party founded by Vladimir Lenin, a new look political force is waving the red flag.

"I expect us to strengthen our position significantly," said Genady Zyuganov, leader of the mainstream Communist Party of the Russian Federation.

Zyuganov, beaming with confidence ahead of the December 17 parliamentary poll, told reporters that not many of the groups taking part would get more than the five percent of votes needed to enter the State Duma lower chamber.

"Seven or eight groups will determine the political process of the future State Duma," he predicted.

Zyuganov said the Communist Party's influence would be boosted by strategic alliances. But real power will stay with President Boris Yeltsin unless there are changes to a constitution heavily weighted in his favor.

The Communist Party, which has about 10 percent of the 450 seats in the current Duma, leads most opinion polls and an alliance with the powerful Agrarian Party looks hard to beat.

Zyuganov, outlining his platform at a meeting organized by Moscow's "Mirror" political club, said other allies might include the Congress of Russian Communities, led by former Russian Security Council chief Yuri Skokov.

"Our strategic ally is the Agrarian Party," Zyuganov said. "This evening we are holding talks with Skokov's team."

Zyuganov said his party was also considering cooperation with former Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov's Power to the People electoral bloc.

But he made clear that the Communist Party considered itself first among equals. "Our party has restored itself as a major political organization," he said, adding that party cells had been established in even the most remote corners of Russia.

Analysts say potential communist voters, many of them from the older generation nostalgic for the past and struggling to adapt to market reforms, come from the most disciplined and politically active sections of a largely apathetic society.

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THE MAGIC FLUTE - Ann Christine Biel, Birgitte Larsson, Stefan Dahlberg.
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SAMSON ET DALILA - Placido Domingo, Shirley Verrett, Wolfgang Brendel.
Recorded live at the San Francisco Opera, conducted by Julius Rudel. 119 min.



TOSCA - Eva Marton, Lamberto Furlan, John Shaw.
Recorded live at the Australian Opera House, conducted by Alberto Erede. 117 min.



IL TROVATORE - Joan Sutherland, Lauris Elms, Kenneth Collins.
Recorded live at the Sydney Opera House, conducted by Richard Bonynge. 144 min.

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הכנסת

West Bankers put weight against compromise

BACKGROUND
PINHAS INBARI

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat have failed to overcome the difficulties on the interim period arrangements, focusing attention on the vast divide between the two sides.

No less important are the differences between Palestinians. These basically revolve around the dichotomy between the PLO's "old leadership" and the "newcomers" of the West Bank, especially now that it is the West Bank that is at the top of the agenda.

Nor is it a coincidence that Hebron is the chief obstacle on the road to the White House lawn. Had it been just Arafat, he could have left the problem for fixing until after the ceremony, as he did after Oslo.

However, a delegation from Hebron, led by Mayor Mustafa

Natsh, made its way to Arafat and informed him the city leaders would tolerate no compromise with Israel.

The delegates said Hebron, more than any other West Bank city, was determined to bring about a major change on the question of Jewish settlement within it, and they would not allow Arafat to sidestep the issue.

This does not mean they can prevent a compromise, but they will not hesitate to lay the bill for any problems on Arafat's table if they feel betrayed. Arafat retains the option of delaying decisions on Hebron to a later stage, but he risks losing legitimacy as leader in the West Bank.

In this light, statements made by Oslo negotiator Abu Mazen (Mahmud Abbas) and Abu Ala (Economics Minister Ahmed Qreia) last week deserve attention. Abu Mazen said Hebron is

not at all negotiable; Abu Ala said it is a "red line."

This went beyond anything Arafat said, giving the impression he is interested in reaching an agreement while these two will try to block it.

One may wonder how these two top Palestinians represent "West Bank" leadership as they themselves are "newcomers" from Tunis. In fact, the old criterion of who is an "inside" or "outside" leader is no longer valid. Unlike in the past, it no longer defines location but, rather, differing visions of the future Palestinian entity.

THE "WEST Bankers" are genuinely keen on getting to a West-

era-style democratic state. The old PLO, now in Gaza, pays lip service to "democracy" but is stuck with its traditional model of an Arab-Third World state.

By such a definition, Abu Mazen and Abu Ala may be considered "West Bankers," as may former delegation leaders Faisal Husseini and Hanan Ashrawi. This difference is their bone of contention with Arafat.

Since they do not believe that spreading the "Gaza model" to the West Bank is in the Palestinian national interest, they will put as many obstacles in Arafat's way as possible.

It is no surprise that Abu Mazen and Abu Ala have chosen to settle in the West Bank, close to

the old delegation leadership, rather than in Gaza near Arafat.

The secret confrontation over the future of the West Bank has many faces. On one of the main battlefields - the concept of West Bank leadership, the old PLO won an important victory, increasing Abu Mazen's anxiety.

Last week, behind closed doors, the World Bank and the PA agreed to end the role of PEDCAR, the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction.

This is the main instrument set up to guarantee that financial aid to the Palestinians is used to build infrastructure and the economy in a state-like manner by being channeled through transparent pipelines and open accounts.

Arafat was opposed to PEDCAR from the beginning. He suspected that aid channeled through it would strengthen West

Bank institutions at the expense of the old PLO and he demanded that money flow directly to the PA in Gaza.

The PA - namely himself - would decide how to disburse it. Abu Ala headed PEDCAR. His tough declarations on Hebron, in a week when Arafat needed a free hand to conclude negotiations with Peres, had not a little to do with his bad feelings about the end of PEDCAR.

For him, it is the end of the attempt to build a modern, state-like economic institution for the Palestinians to replace the personal, Third World, Arafat way of handling money.

It is now clear that for Arafat success in concluding an agreement with Israel is not going to be enough.

He must also win the increasingly doubtful loyalty of the West Bank.

Palestinian expellees in squeeze

LEBANESE authorities, using troops, barred Palestinians from entering Lebanon this week, and a senior Palestinian official said Beirut's decision to impose visa restrictions was an "indirect declaration of war."

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, reiterating his government's decision told reporters: "We are not obliged to follow any decision Libya makes because Lebanese state interests are paramount."

"The decision to bar Palestinians from Lebanon will be carried out in its entirety," Hariri said. PLO chief Yasser Arafat called the expulsions "a crime" and asked the international community to help stop them.

"This is another tragedy against the Palestinian people," Arafat said. "We appeal to the entire world to stop this crime which is happening."

Israel controls the international crossing from Egypt at Gaza, and police spokesman Eric Bar-Chen said 39 Palestinian families expelled from Libya arrived in recent days at Egypt's border with the autonomous Gaza Strip. They were denied entry.

The Palestinian director of the crossing point, Nazmi Mubana, said Arafat ordered food and pocket money provided to the Palestinians stranded on the Egyptian side.

In a September 1 speech marking the 26th anniversary of his military takeover, Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi urged Arab countries to expel Palestinians to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to expose what he called the deception of the 1993 PLO-Israel self-rule accord. Following the speech, several hundred of the 30,000-strong Palestinian community in Libya were expelled.

About 400 expelled Palestinians were admitted to Lebanon before that country imposed visa restrictions.

PLO officials in Cairo said Gaddafi has already begun gathering Palestinians in camps in Tripoli and Benghazi.

The officials had no final figures for the number deported. But Arab League sources said 4,000 had gone by ship to Lebanon over the past two weeks in addition to several hundred pushed to the Egyptian border. Lebanon then closed its sea ports to the exiles.

Hisham Salameh, a university lecturer and one of the 45 Palestinians stranded along the Gaza-Egypt border, said he saw hundreds of Palestinian families stranded on the border between Egypt and Libya.

Abdel-Rahman al-Qazzaz, 58, who had worked as a teacher for 25 years in Libya, said: "We are now trapped in a place where no one wants us. Libya and Egypt are refusing to let us enter their territories and Israel is refusing to let us go back home." (Agencies)

Iraq atomic-bomb program 'doomed'

ALLIED bombing during the Gulf war and technical difficulties doomed Iraq's crash program to develop nuclear weapons after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, the UN nuclear watchdog said this week.

A project to divert French and Soviet fuel from a research reactor could have given Iraq enough material for a nuclear device in 1 1/2 years, said spokesman David Kyd of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

That was about half the time it may have taken to produce a weapon under a program to convert Iraq's own natural uranium into weapons-grade material.

But bombing by a US-led coalition destroyed many of the facilities and ended that project.

Details of the program have emerged since the defection to Jordan last month of Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan, the former Iraqi minister of industry.

Hans Blix, IAEA director-general, said agency inspectors were invited to Baghdad and given details of the program, which later were largely confirmed by former Iraqi army major, Izzadine Mohammed Hassan al-Majid, who

defected to Jordan in August.

"Of the information recently provided by Iraq which has been reviewed and analyzed to date, nothing suggests that a change is warranted in the agency's conclusion that Iraq's nuclear weapons program has been, for all practical purposes, destroyed, removed or rendered harmless," Blix said.

Under the project, launched shortly after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, equipment was manufactured, assembled and tested before being damaged by allied bombing.

Kyd said that regardless of allied bombing, the Iraqis faced difficulties in separating and enriching the material. Iraq also needed to master delivery and detonation systems, he said.

The project would have produced about 20 kg of weapons-grade material, enough for one bomb, Kyd said.

IAEA officials said they were analyzing about 50 documents turned over by the Iraqis, but so far had found nothing to change their view that Iraq's nuclear program has been destroyed. (Agencies)

Home is a death trap for Algerian newsmen

THE memory of murdered colleagues haunted Algerian journalists who went on strike this week in a desperate plea for protection against what newspapers term the carnage wrought by Moslem militants.

Reluctantly but understandably asking that his name not be used, one journalist who believes he is on a fundamentalists' death list recently underlined the fear that hangs over his life and those of his colleagues.

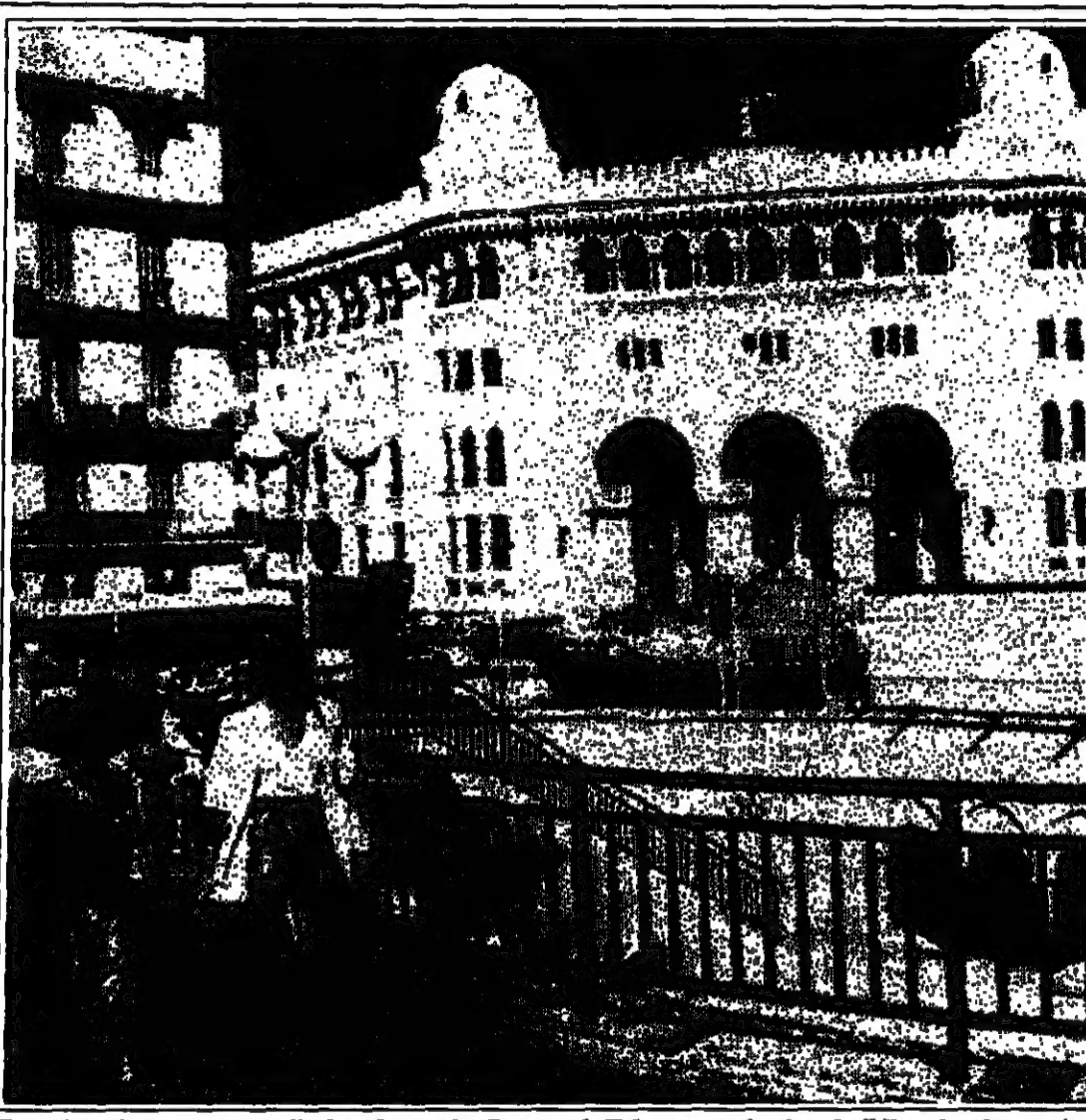
"Most of those murdered by terrorists are gunned down near home," he said as he drove to the heights of Algiers in bright Mediterranean sunshine last month.

His mission was to check any suspect presence around the home of a woman colleague who wanted to collect kitchen utensils to take to the small new flat she had moved to for safety.

Both journalists left their homes after Moslem fundamentalists confirmed what they term their holy war against journalists by killing more of them.

In Moslem Algeria, women used to be almost immune from violence outside the home. But the precautions taken by the journalist's colleague were justified.

Three weeks after that car journey another woman colleague, Naima Hamouda, a culture reporter with the weekly *Revolution Africaine*, was shot dead near her flat in the Algiers suburb of Saoula.



Two Algerian women walk by the main Post and Telecommunication building in the capital on Monday. Newspapers went on strike for three days to protest the killing of journalists. (AP)

Since then five more journalists have been killed near home.

This week their colleagues shut down almost all newspapers to demand an end to the slaughter and an improvement in what their Editors' Association called "derisory" protection.

The army-backed government, which calls on journalists to side with it against what it terms the militant havoc threatening Algeria's unity, has pledged repeatedly to protect the media.

The killings have not stopped.

About 50 journalists and media employees have been killed in Algeria since May 1993, when Moslem fundamentalists said they must perish by "the sword" for supporting the government.

Many more have fled abroad.

About 200 now live in France. Many of the rest live a twilight world after work, flitting from one hotel to another, living some nights at home but more often "camping" with sometimes reluc-

tant relatives.

The Brussels-based International Federation of Journalists said it wanted better security and more openness so local journalists could work more effectively and without fear and so that more foreign ones could enter Algeria.

Referring to the killings and the flight of many other journalists, a spokesman said: "We want to avoid the alternative of the coffin or the suitcase." (Reuters)

Saudis back Harvard Law

A \$5 million gift from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for an Islamic legal studies center at Harvard Law School helped the school surpass a five-year fundraising goal by \$25 million.

The school plans to hire more professors, boost student aid programs and renovate its library with the \$175 million raised.

"The campaign to assure Harvard Law School's future as the globally preeminent law school has been a resounding success," Clark said. "Harvard Law School will head into the 21st century as

the world leader in legal teaching, research and public service."

The law school received 57 donations of at least \$1 million, including the \$5 million gift from King Fahd. Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her government donated \$300,000 to support teaching and research concerning Islamic law.

The largest gift was \$13 million, from Gustave and Rita Hauser, which is the largest cash gift ever donated to a law school, will go toward the creation of Hauser Hall for classrooms and faculty offices. (AP)

King sticks out his neck over Iraq

RAMA SABBAGH
AMMAN

KING Hussein's shift against Iraq may be winning friends elsewhere, but there is deep unease inside Jordan where popular support for President Saddam Hussein remains strong.

The king's move to distance himself from Jordan's neighbor and onetime strategic ally comes shortly after last year's peace treaty with Israel, which shocked many Jordanians.

The new moves are harming his popularity, officials and politicians say.

During the Gulf crisis of 1990-91, the king opposed the US-led alliance that eventually expelled the Iraqi army from Kuwait, and the king's stand then cost him dearly with Gulf Arab donors.

His stand now is winning him back some standing on the international stage, but it is also making Jordanians nervous.

"The king faces a difficult and dangerous mission in cutting through layers of support Iraq has managed to build in Jordan over the years and on all levels... official, political, social and economic," said a senior Western diplomat.

"His problem is with his people," he said. "It looks like Saddam remains more popular in Jordan than in Iraq."

The king's turn against Saddam came in grandstand style, a televised attack in which he called for political change in Baghdad.

But he had already given asylum to a high-level Iraqi defector and allowed him to use his palace to call for the overthrow of the Iraqi government.

He praised Lt.-Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan, Saddam's defector son-in-law, whom many Jordanians see as a traitor.

The king, as in his peace treaty with Israel, is far in advance of public opinion. But a break from

Iraq is not easy for Jordan.

"What business of ours is this and what guarantees do we have?" asked a leading politician. Fears of being drawn into a US effort to unseat Saddam are heard everywhere from the luxurious mansions of the elite to cafes in downtown Amman.

King Hussein has ruled Jordan for more than 40 years and makes all major foreign policy decisions.

But under Jordan's infant democracy, ordinary citizens and public figures alike feel free to voice their suspicion of US policies and their continuing admiration for Saddam because he defied the West and attacked Israel in the Gulf war.

EVEN MEMBERS of government and parliament are reluctant to join in the king's shift and his praise of Hassan.

Influential businessmen, who grew rich from trade with Iraq during its 1980-88 war with Iran, do not want the links harmed - either for current trade or in the future when they hope to profit from the eventual end of UN economic sanctions on Iraq.

Although King Hussein emphasized he was not cutting economic ties, he said Jordan was seeking alternative sources of oil to replace the cheap Iraqi crude on which it has long relied.

But Iraq's influence extends beyond simple trade links. Some Jordanians are aligned for ideological reasons and others have been on Baghdad's payroll.

"The pro-Iraqi school is very strong in Jordan, especially among opinion-shapers, politicians and journalists. This is a very important factor one can't

overlook," said a minister.

Some officials were nurtured in the heady political culture of the 1950s, when the movement to create one Arab nation from the Gulf to the Atlantic burned fiercely.

This is a pillar of Iraq's Baathist ideology, and the pan-Arabists remain committed even if they admit Saddam's policies have disappointed.

A small pro-Iraqi Jordanian Baathist party has a deputy in the 80-seat lower house of Parliament representing an affluent area of Amman.

Saddam sent lavish gifts to influential Jordanians, such as hundreds of luxury cars to prime ministers, ministers and members of parliament.

Many journalists received free homes and money.

Iraq's embassy has a staff of around 100. Ambassador Nouri al-Wayess, among the most active Arab envoys, visited newspapers and Jordanian politicians after last month's defections to sell Iraq's position.

The media helped fuel pro-Iraqi popular sentiment after Saddam's invasion of Kuwait. Now, pro-government dailies are playing down the change, but opposition weeklies have printed sensational charges of US-led plots against Saddam.

"In justifying its pro-Iraqi position during the Gulf crisis, Jordanian media cited its role as a reflection of public sentiments, which overwhelmingly supported Saddam," said George Hawatmeh, editor of the English-language *Jordan Times* daily.

Today, the situation is different. They also want to be in line with opinion leaders who have generally agreed that Jordan should stay away from Iraq's internal affairs... as this entails more dangers than benefits." (Reuters)

Sonia Skolnick, MA in music, teaches music in special education at Ma'aleh School.



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Extradition and democracy

THIS time, not only the opposition is crying foul. Government ministers, too, are expressing frustration and anger at the Palestinian Authority's refusal to extradite terrorists of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a PLO faction, wanted for the murder of Ohad Bachrach and Ori Shahar in July.

To state that this is a violation of the Oslo agreement is to reduce a tragedy to a technicality. It has been clear, literally from day one, that the Palestinian partner to the negotiations never had any intention to adhere to the agreement. Precisely two years ago today, Yasser Arafat, on the very day of the signing ceremony on the White House lawn, delivered a speech to the Palestinian people on Jordanian television in which he said nothing about peace with Israel, but reminded his listeners of the PLO plan of 1974. As all Palestinians know, it is the blueprint for the destruction of Israel in phases.

To those who believe that what matters in dictatorships is only what leaders say to their people, not what they whisper to gullible Westerners, it was a clear indication that Arafat had no intention to abide by the Oslo agreement. All his subsequent speeches to his people have confirmed this supposition.

This does not mean that Arafat may not cooperate with Israel to get further concessions. But he is bound neither by moral imperatives nor national interest to continue such cooperation once he achieves what he wants. As one military intelligence analyst put it to the cabinet recently, once Arafat controls the territories, he will have no incentive to adhere to the Oslo agreement or to discourage terrorism.

But PLO perfidy is hardly news. On the contrary, had Arafat kept an agreement after failing to honor 200 previous pacts, it would have truly been an outright sensation. Nor should one be startled by the PA's ability to use a loophole in the Oslo agreement to circumvent the extradition clause. The incompetence of Israel's negotiators in Oslo was nothing short of stunning. Ignorant of the Middle East, lacking experience, shunning advice and endowed mostly with insufferable hubris, they performed as expected.

But it is neither the conduct of the PLO nor the negotiators' blunders which make this latest slap in Israel's face tragic. The incident is fatal because it exposes an intrinsic Israeli inability to understand its neighborhood. It is as if the nation has learned nothing from its mental blackout before the 1973 war, which almost caused the country's destruction. Twenty-two years ago the country was a prisoner of what

was known as "the concept." It began a total misassessment of Arab intentions, postulating that the Arab regimes were neither interested nor capable of going to war. One of the leading proponents of this concept was Yitzhak Rabin.

Today's "concept" can be summarized in Rabin's statement of two years ago, that the PLO has not only ceased being a terrorist organization but that it can fight terrorism more effectively than Israel, because it need not worry about human rights organizations and the Supreme Court. This was supplemented by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's rhetorical question, "Why should we chase the Hamas when the PLO can do it for us?"

That Israeli leaders could really believe that Arafat would turn on Palestinian terrorists and either destroy them or hand them over to Israel's security forces is quintessential naivete. Terrorists like Amin Ziad, Youssef Ra'i and Shahar Ra'i, who killed the two Israelis in Wadi Kelt, are heroes to virtually every Palestinian. Nor has Arafat ever tried to tarnish the exalted image of such terrorists in the Palestinian community. Day in and day out he glorifies their deeds, extols their sacrifice and blesses their courage. To expect him to extradite them is to demand that he make a mockery of everything he has been saying for over 30 years.

Perhaps even more painful is that not only politicians prone to wishful thinking but the security services, too, have become prisoners of the current "concept," as they did in 1973. For more than a month they have known that the three murderers found shelter in Jericho and that they were moving freely there. (Regrettably, they misled the Israeli public by announcing that the killers escaped elsewhere.)

Only when one of the terrorists, Amin Ziad, returned to his home in Kalkilya and was arrested there by Israeli security forces, did the Palestinian Police detain his accomplices, hurriedly sentencing them to prison to protect them from Israeli extradition demands. Yet until the very last minute the security services assured the government that this time the PA will honor the Oslo extradition agreement.

That politicians like Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Police Minister Moshe Shaleh, both defenders to the death of the Oslo agreement, have rationalized the PA's refusal to extradite the murderers is hardly surprising. But it is unfortunate indeed that members of the cabinet who truly believe in democratic ideals are supporting the establishment of a savage, treacherous police state right on Israel's doorstep.

'Let's ask Teheran to buy every Israeli a car...'



No security panacea

JUDY Siegel-Itzkovich is right. Changed security circumstances do require greater responsibility on the part of Jewish residents of Judea and Samaria (The Jerusalem Post, September 8). But the writer errs in her facile assumption that erecting security fences displays such responsibility.

Fences do not prevent terror atrocities. The article lumped terrorist penetrations into Netatim and Michmas together, omitting the fact that Netatim is surrounded by a security fence. The extensive Karif area fence has similarly not deterred incursions and bombings. And it's not only people who get through fences; stolen trucks and heavy equipment headed for the Palestinian Authority have also made it.

Far from being a security panacea, fences have liabilities.

A fence usually abuts the last row of houses in a settlement; it doesn't generally encompass the community's entire territorial holdings. This allows a terrorist to lob explosives over the fence - as occurred at Elazar - or plant charges next to it.

Once in place, a fence is sometimes viewed as the de facto boundary of the community. Arabs pasture their livestock up to the gate, olive trees appear alongside the fence to strangle future growth. Even in the good old days, Israeli security forces were loath to act against such encroachments. It doesn't look good, taking action against shepherds and uprooting olive trees amid the clamor of Peace Now activists.

If members of a Jewish community emerged from behind its fence to take action, the fact that they had acted beyond the protective fence could be held against them.

AMIEL UNGAR

The fence would become a demarcation between defensive and defensible actions, and aggressive and culpable ones.

Ms. Siegel-Itzkovich is also wrong to deride the psychological and symbolic implications of a fence. Those who live in communities in Judea and Samaria are aware that the information battle will prove decisive in Israel and abroad. We do not wish to hand the various Lord Haw-Haws the argument that Jewish communities are alien, paramilitary fortresses.

TEKOA, where I live, has had no fence, since 1981. The very

Israelis should be leery of the 'fence defense,' wherever they live

week the fence went down, we were visited by a knight-errant reporter and his photographer Sancho Panza. They wanted pictures of women with guns.

Since women with guns are not part of the community's day-to-day reality, we had to disappoint them.

When the article and pictures appeared, it became clear that the photographer had zeroed in on a small relic of the barbed-wire fence that happened still to be standing. The "armed camp" metaphor had to find expression at all costs.

Israelis should be leery of the "fence defense," even if they live

outside Judea and Samaria. Conceptually, the fence marks a retreat to discredited ideas.

During the murderous Arab infitah of the 1930s, the prevailing defensive concept of the Jewish community was to sit behind the fences of Jewish settlements and await the Arab marauders there. Of course this policy awarded the terror bands total freedom of initiative.

Palmah founder Yitzhak Sadeh, whose reputation has so far escaped the debunkers, condemned these static tactics, and successfully pressed for the establishment of field forces.

Jews quickly learned to operate outside the fence and initiate contact with the enemy, to good effect. Until recently, the doctrine that Israel would carry the war to the enemy predominated.

At Oslo, however, Israel mortgaged its counter-terrorist options and subcontracted preemptive action to a bewildering array of Palestinian security organs. Faute de mieux, Israel is reverting to the static policy of the "Shahal Line": fences manned by vastly augmented police forces, seconded by canine auxiliaries.

The security placebo of fences won't count for much if havens for terrorists are created nearby, and convicted felons merely have to take a meaningless peace pledge to secure their release.

If we're talking about irresponsibility and negligence, we should start with the Polyanna strategists of the New Middle East, compared to whom the Disneyland denizens Siegel-Itzkovich berates are hardheaded realists.

The writer teaches political science at Bar-Ilan University.

The crazy among us

TEDDY PREUSS

THE settlers threaten to oppose the government by setting up armed militias and taking the law into their own hands. They number about 120,000 (140,000 by their own estimates), including women and children (mostly children).

Simultaneously, MK Rehavam Ze'evi has served an ultimatum that police who disperse demonstrators with tear gas should be treated like enemy troops who have opened fire.

If firing gas is to be considered aggressive warlike action, the Israeli police have been a hostile force for a long time. Gas has been used dozens of times to disperse demonstrations; but those demonstrations were organized by the left, from fanatic groups like Yesh Gvul to vegetarian organizations like Peace Now.

Did they have the right to act as Ze'evi has promised in the face of tear gas?

And Ze'evi's threats are not the most dangerous thing. Remember his promise to open fire on any armed Palestinian? Meanwhile, over 20,000 "terrorists" and "murderers" have received arms, and thus far he hasn't shot at any of them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS from other sources should concern us more.

Death threats have not yet been directed at the prime minister, other ministers or the chief of police, but cries of "Traitors," "Death to Rabin" and abuse of public figures - not just Police Minister Shaleh but even Presi-

Government leaders assassinated? Theory could become practice

dent Weizman, are heard more often than "Death to Arafat" or Sheikh Yassin.

For the time being, "Death to Rabin" is more of an ideological statement than a call for action; but a traitor who deserves to die can never be sure when theory will get translated into practice.

Of course, if something of the kind happens, God forbid, the public will be told that the assassin was mentally ill, crazy, homicidal or all of the above; but whether he is a madman or a zealot, the outcome will be the same.

French Socialist leader Jean Jaurès, assassinated in 1914 for opposing the war, couldn't take much comfort from the fact that his murderer was totally clinically insane and not a member of Kach, the Islamic Jihad, or the National Front. Israel in 1995 is flooded with camouflaged, semi-camouflaged and open threats.

The temperature won't drop as elections approach. On the contrary, it will probably rise, and the number of threats will increase.

One doesn't have to be paranoid or hypochondriac to believe that somewhere in the country there is another volunteer of the caliber of Yona Avrushimi, who will be driven by demagogic incitement to seek out his own Emil Grunzweig.

Perhaps, after the event, Avrushimi II will regret his deed, as has the original Avrushimi.

Back then, Likud leaders expressed regret and reconciliation, but breast-beating won't return our society to relative sanity.

Israel isn't Sweden, which carried on as normal after its prime minister was shot; it isn't even the US after its president was assassinated.

A political assassination here would rock the country no less than a bomb in the mosques on the Temple Mount.

Perhaps warning about assassination attempts on government members is making mountains out of molehills.

But it's better to be safe than sorry.

And it isn't just "left-wing" leaders. The democratic right is equally at risk. Their leaders will perish in the earthquake that swallows up the left. They will share the fate of the policemen to whom Ze'evi delivered his ultimatum.

The writer is a former senior writer for the Davar daily.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MIDDLE OF THE ROAD

Sir, - The word "democracy" has become a punching bag that everyone tries to hit into the face of his opponent.

The government acts on behalf of the Knesset majority that is not only mathematically doubtable but stands on rickety feet. Basic things about boundaries of the autonomy and the continued existence of the settlements are not displayed to the general public, but pungent leaks from government meetings dealing with security questions belong to the daily diet of the nation.

It is dubious if the present Rabin government will have enough breathing space until November 1996. Primary fever is already in the air. Demonstrations from the right-wing opposition are on clear-cut issues because they know what they are against. Left-wing demonstrations, until today, did not take place because they don't know what the word *shalom* would mean in reality.

The so-called right-wing demonstrations are in favor of those settlers who went as founding fathers to the location of their settlements, in many cases, with the blessing of the government. They felt that their Zionist pioneering work, in which they have invested years of their lives and the security of their children, is endangered. The government, instead of trying to explain and at least show that they understand those ide-

alistic settlers, has certain spokesmen that delegitimize them.

My strong criticisms concerning the negotiations with Arafat are in no case rationalization for the behavior of certain demonstrators. Pledging at the beginning of the demonstrations that there will be no violence does not guarantee that at the end of the demonstration, there will be wounded policemen.

Those demonstrators who call Israeli policemen "Nazis" pay a complement to Hitler. The Holocaust - with its planners and implementers - is a historical event of a dimension that should not be banalized, neither by haredim demonstrators, nor by those who, out of love for Eretz Yisrael, are hatefully throwing stones at policemen. The way to violence is short. The way back from violence is not easy. This historic experience in moral teachings should be clear to the teachers of the youngsters who are active participants in those demonstrations.

The government should have a clear understanding that it is dealing with living subjects, partners in statehood. A citizen is not an object that can simply be moved from place to place.

Let us not leave the middle. Middle of the road is not mediocrity.

DR. JOSEF BURG

Jerusalem.

'REAL' TIME

Sir, - Careful attention to Avraham Poraz's recent demands for the extension of daylight saving time makes it again apparent that what we are dealing with is not simply a dispute over whether or not this arrangement should continue for another month, but rather a symptom of an implicit anti-religious attitude, and a incipient *Kulurkamp*.

Poraz's appeal to Barak on the issue, as reported by the JP on August 28, focused not on the merits or demerits of the issue, but, rather, on the peripheral issue, as defined by him, of religious coercion. Lost in the argument, of course, is the fact that we are not talking about the imposition of a time system that is for the benefit of the religious, but,

rather, of the return to what is, in fact, real time - i.e., the cessation of the imposed artificial change in time that has been in force since spring. We are not dealing with an instance of imposition on the wider public of a system that is for the benefit of the religious sector, but, instead, with an instance of an attempt to impose on the religious sector the continuation of a time-alteration that is inimical to its needs. Furthermore, Poraz's suggestion that the continuation of daylight savings time is in the best interest of the general public, is spurious: he chooses, apparently, to ignore all the rationally based arguments for a return to "real" time.

DR. JEANETTE DERSHOWITZ Herzliya.

MICROSOFT WINDOWS

Sir, - August 24 witnessed the computer event of the decade and the latest rip-off of the Israeli consumer - Microsoft Windows '95. The program is being sold in the US at \$90. In the UK the price is £65.

Out of curiosity, I called Microsoft Ramat Gan to check out the situation here. I was referred to He-shavshet Limited in Haifa, their distribution in the north. On calling them, I was told that the upgrade is being sold for \$160 and full version of Windows '95 retails at \$260. As these are dollar prices, VAT, at 17 percent, must be added.

Further, this version, being the English version, will not support any Hebrew, so basically the Microsoft Hebrew edition of Word 6, Access and Excel cannot be used with it. One may then ask why the Israeli is being charged double the price for useless software.

Microsoft has announced the Hebrew release for January '96. No doubt the pricing here will be equally extortionate and then we will have to buy upgrades for Word 6, etc. for Windows '95 at more rip-off prices of a few hundred dollars. All this when Windows '96 is right around the corner!

Never mind the US government. Mr. Gates has some serious explaining to do to the Israeli computer public, particularly following his glib multimedia clip on *Mabat* of August 23.

FRANK D. BERMAN

Karmiel.

POISON-PEN WRITING

Sir, - I enjoy reading your paper, getting opinions from across the political spectrum. However, I must protest the tone of Michal Yudelman's *The Week That Was*. The venom that spews forth from her against religious Jews and right-wing parties is unforgivable. Week after week, she mocks those she disagrees with in a truly hateful way. Sarcastic is acceptable when done in good taste. But I just get disgusted when I read her poison-pen writing.

To her credit, she worked on Arafat as well in "I got you, babe" (August 11).

B. BERLINGER Jerusalem.

Eerie silence in Sarajevo

MONDAY, April 6, 1992. A single day three years ago marked a turning point in my life. It was a day when my childhood was officially over, and I had to deal with situations and problems bigger than the world I previously knew. War came off the big screen straight into my life.

My life had a rhythm I had planned never to change. I would wake at 7:30 a.m., eat breakfast and start the day. Life in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, was very different from anything a teenager would experience in say, New York. A person could go out at 11 p.m. and come back at 4 a.m. without feeling insecure.

We lived in the center of the city, right on the river. A mountain rises high above the river. Across the street was an ancient oak tree, huge and beautiful. Each morning, the sound of a tramcar would let me know that it was time to wake up.

Then, on April 6, everything changed.

I hadn't slept well that night because a biology examination awaited me the next morning. I woke up early and, half asleep, was going through some basic biology problems. Then I suddenly noticed that I had not heard the tramcar.

My first guess was that the city's electricity was down. I turned on my stereo. No, the stereo was as loud as usual. I looked through the window. There was no sign of cars, people, or the tramcar. I suddenly heard noise in the living room. My parents and sister were watching two TV stations and listening to the news on the radio. I stood frozen in one spot. Images of the war in nearby Croatia went through my mind.

Was it possible that war had now become a reality in Sarajevo, too? It couldn't be.

First, Sarajevans had not

GOGA VUKMIROVIC

harm anyone. They lived untouched by the evils of politics and nationalism. They loved the city and its spirit. Who could even think about firing a bullet in Sarajevo?

Second, it was too sudden. Nothing foreshadowed the beginning of war, the end of a great, beautiful childhood. Finally, nothing could save me from sweating through my exam for two hours, I thought.

I was wrong. I did not go to school again.

After a few moments, I got brave enough to sit next to my sister and watch the news. I could

Then war came off the big screen straight into my life

feel the tension and astonishment. Big demonstrations were going on in front of the parliament building.

The Serbs had blocked all the exits to and from the city. The siege had begun. The war in Bosnia had started.

On television, I saw the first life being taken on the streets. I saw the first blood spread across a walkway, red and frightening. It did not look real. No, it could not be happening in Sarajevo. This had to be Kuwait, Israel, London, Moscow - any place but Sarajevo.

For the next two months, I watched from the corner of my window as bombs destroyed offices, apartments, hotels and libraries. It took me a long time to realize fully the destructive power of a bullet, a bomb, a grenade, a rocket. It took me even longer to realize that it was happening right outside my door.

THE SOUND of every bomb de-

stroyed a piece of me. People were killed each day. Children were robbed of their right to grow up normally.

Monuments that stood for what people believed in and lived for were blown up with a single blast. Yet throughout those two months, I never for a moment suspected that the pain, suffering and death would continue for three years.

One morning, a loud explosion woke me. I broke one of the most important rules: I went to the window to look outside. The ancient oak tree had been cut in half, and was still burning. A small part of my perfect world was gone. Hundreds of years of balance between nature and civilization had been destroyed overnight.

Soon after that, my mother, sister and I left Bosnia, hoping we would be back in a few weeks. I have not returned.

Hope is what kept and still keeps the people of Sarajevo alive. A simple hope for a better tomorrow, for peace, or for the prewar past seems like asking too much.

It is dangerous even to hope, because once you think normalcy is returning to everyday life, the beast of war awakens and continues its destruction. The beast keeps people imprisoned and reminds them too often of the cruel reality they live in.

The most recent reminder was the shell that killed nearly 40 people in a Sarajevo marketplace. How is it possible to escape such reality? The river, the oak tree, my friends and, above all, my family and my city are the things that will live in me forever. And, what is even more important, they made me realize that you never know how much you love something until you lose it.

No matter how far away I go, the city will always be a part of me.

(Hartford Courant)

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

The wild lies of a literary con-artist

DANNY BEN-MOSHE

A woman of English ancestry who claimed to have built a novel around World War II memories of her imaginary Ukrainian family may have a history of antisemitic activity, according to recent reports.

Helen Demidenko, the author of *The Hand That Signed the Paper*, constructed a false identity, family history and personal background to promote a book that won two literary prizes and a slot on best-seller lists, and fooled the country's literary and media establishments.

Late last month, she admitted to being Helen Darville, the daughter of English immigrants, after weeks of media reports to that effect, and apologized for the deception.

Darville, 24, had argued that Ukrainians participated in the Holocaust because Jewish communists had caused the 1930s famine in Ukraine.

What inspired Darville? When her novel was believed to be based on family experience, this gave her some protection from charges of racism. Now, however, her motives are being debated. One schoolteacher recalls his concern at her reaction to a lecture he gave on racism in Nazi Germany, saying "She resisted the line that I was taking of inexcusable Nazi war guilt."

At school, Darville published an article in the school journal entitled, "Demjanjuk versus the State of Israel." There are un-

confirmed reports that as an activist in the Young National Party she proposed a motion at a party conference that alleged war criminals not be tried in Australia.

Herald-Sun literary editor and far-right watcher David Greason has called on Darville to apologize to Australia's Jewish and Ukrainian communities. The latter demanded an explanation, which has not been forthcoming.

IN DEFENDING the novel before her apology, she told ABC-TV: "I wrote the book because I experienced, as a Ukrainian-Australian person, a greater deal of personal unpleasantness as a result of war-crimes trials." As a lawyer who apparently spent a lot of time in courtrooms, Darville said her writing was motivated by a quest to discover the truth.

However, the closest she got to being a lawyer was first-year law study at university.

Like the lead character in her novel, she said she was a first-generation Australian with a Ukrainian father. She professed that much of her research was based on oral testimony of family members. "Most" of "her father's family" she claimed "were killed by Jewish communists" in Ukraine.

Darville/Demidenko claimed her father was an illiterate Ukrainian immigrant named Markov Demidenko, but he is actually Harry Darville from the English town of Scunthorpe. In her wild imagination, she said the only

reason her father wasn't drafted into the SS was because he had flat feet and polio. Darville/Demidenko claimed her parents met on a refugee ship, but her mother Grace also came from Scunthorpe.

And while her literary talents have been widely acclaimed, it turns out that she plagiarized an article while a student at Queensland University.

It transpires that Darville/Demidenko built a false personality. In all her photos, she poses with her hand on her chin, pointing out that this is a Ukrainian folk-dancing pose. She falsely claimed that as the child of a poor working immigrant family, she won a scholarship to a private school. At school, she recalled being good at math and science and only developed a penchant for writing at university. As her former headmaster said, "This is simply not true."

It was the headmaster who proved to be her downfall. When she said that while at school four students of Yugoslav origin were persecuted in the playground because of their ethnic background, the headmaster spoke out. He said there were no Yugoslav children and that Demidenko was Darville.

HER BROTHER Iain described her imaginary family history as "a great marketing exercise." Darville/Demidenko said she

changed her name to protect her family. But the scandal begs the question: Would she have won the award if she was known as the child of English immigrants?

Conservative intellectual Robert Manne, writing in the *Australian Book Review* said: "Perhaps Demidenko's youth or gender or unfashionable ethnic identity weighed with the judges more heavily than they should have."

Miles Franklin Contest judge Jill Kitson responded saying, "It doesn't matter who her parents are... It is a novel. It makes zero difference to a novel." She added: "The author's background... is not what the judging of a literary prize is about." However, the judges' report praised the novel as "incorporating into the cultural memory first-hand experience of the major historical events of the century."

Her fiercest critic is Gerard Henderson, executive director of the policy research think tank, the Sydney Institute, contends, "She claimed the book was based on oral history handed down from her father. Once that lie was exposed, the book lost all credibility."

Other literary figures argue that because she is not Ukrainian, her achievement as a writer of fiction is that much greater. However, as Ivor Indyk, the editor of *Southerly* magazine, commented, "There are a lot of us who are deeply ashamed of what is going on," and called for Darville/Demidenko to be stripped of her award or for the judges to step

down. The judges are, however, standing firm, and many literary figures are attributing Darville/Demidenko's antics to a powerful literary imagination.

What remains unknown is her motive and source. Why did she choose the name Demidenko of all names. Demidenko being a known perpetrator of murder at Babi Yar in 1941? Where did she acquire the thesis which many claim is antisemitic? It now comes out that publisher Allen and Unwin had contracted editor Lynn Segal to work on the book, but when she saw it, she refused.

"Where did she get those stories from?" Segal asked Allen and Unwin. "I don't believe they were researched. Personally, I don't believe they are the product of a rich and fertile imagination."

When the story broke, Darville/Demidenko went into hiding. She later issued a statement repeating that she had Ukrainian ancestry on her father's side, but as her mother said, "We are poms [Australian epithet for British], let's be honest about it."

Something else that is clear is that, by first refusing to recognize the fraud behind the book and now by defending their decision, the judges have severely tarnished the Miles Franklin Award, Australia's premier literary prize.

The other thing that is clear, as Darville/Demidenko's very English grandmother said of her granddaughter, "She tells the biggest crammers." The biggest tale though remains to be told.

Scientists shed more light on bat behavior

FROM the tropics to the extreme edges of the temperate zones, from deep underground to the forest canopy, bats rule the night. Long feared and shunned, bats slowly are winning public acceptance.

And scientists are gaining insight into the biology and behavior of these nocturnal animals.

With the help of new technology borrowed from the military, the space program and industry, the mammalogists who work the night shift are making discoveries that should improve strategies for protecting the world's bats, which perform many services for other living creatures.

"This is an exciting field right now," biologist Thomas Kunz remarked earlier this month during a lull between sessions of the 10th International Bat Research Conference in Boston.

Kunz, the director of the ecology and conservation program at Boston University, served as the meeting's chief organizer.

The conference, the largest in the history of bat studies, brought together more than 400 scientists from 45 countries. The gathering included "98 percent of the key people in the discipline," Kunz said.

What they heard ranged from technical talks on the "psychophysics of bat echolocation" to wider discussions of conservation issues.

A persistent theme was the enthusiastic adoption of new technologies, which fall into several broad categories:

- DNA testing. Recent advances allow scientists to pick out a specific genetic sequence present in a tiny tissue sample and copy it many times over.

This makes it possible to compare gene sequences from different animals to determine how they are related.

- This gives us insight into kinship in roosts," Kunz said. "We can find out who mates with whom."

- Night vision. Goggles adapted from the military and law enforcement allow bat researchers to see more of the mammals' behavior than ever before.

- Acoustic detectors. Hand-held models allow field researchers to detect the ultrasound calls used by bats to locate prey and navigate. Some units provide instant digital displays of the detected frequencies.

- Miniature transmitters. Radio collars almost as small as a fingernail can be attached to bats. The transmitters emit a radio signal that allows a researcher to track the movements of individual animals.

Some bats, minus their wings, are about the size of a pinky finger.

If such a tiny creature is to get airborne and forage for hours while carrying freight, the package must weigh nearly nothing.

With advances in electronics and the shrinking of batteries, bats can be outfitted the way wildbeasts or bears have been for decades.

The new tools are helping to lift the literal veil of darkness that has shrouded bats, which have diversified into more species than any other kind of mammal.

One paper presented at the conference illustrated several themes.

Linda Lumsden, of the Australia Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, reported on studies of two species of bats in a fragmented rural landscape in southern Australia.

Using radio telemetry, she and her colleagues tracked the bats to study their patterns of foraging and roosting. In the study area, most of the land had been cleared for farming, although it remained dotted by small stands of native vegetation.

Several kilometers away, however, was a sizable tract of undisturbed native forest. The study found that no lactating females would roost in the farmland; all were dependent on the unbroken forest.

The implications for conservation were profound: if farmers were allowed to clear the remaining woodland, the insect-eating bat population likely would crash, leaving farmers' crops more vulnerable to attack.

Kunz said conservation is an issue that weighs heavily on bat specialists, as it does on most biologists.

"We are trying to improve the well-being of the planet by studying these animals."

He said there probably is no reliable answer to the question of whether the global bat population is increasing, decreasing or stable. There are simply too many species and too little data, he said.

On the species level, however, scientists are able to track trends. Of about 920 species worldwide, 43 appear in North America, including 41 insect-eating types and two nectar feeders.

Researchers are undertaking a comprehensive survey of the US bat population, led by the National Biological Service.

Tom O'Shea, an NBS official at Fort Collins, Colorado, said the project eventually will yield detailed data on all species, both historical and contemporary.

Many American bat species are under pressure from the sorts of problems that plague bats worldwide. The main threats, Kunz said, include deforestation, pesticides and, in some areas, hunting.

One current conservation issue involves the thousands of abandoned mines in western states.

The mine shafts and chambers resemble the caves that many bat species prefer for roosting.

Problems arise when state or federal officials order a mine to be sealed to prevent injury to humans who might enter it.

Often, Kunz said, officials simply drive up to the mouth of a mine in the daytime, explode dynamite to block the entrance, then leave.

Thousands of bats may be trapped inside, doomed to die.

Groups such as Texas-based Bat Conservation International advocate a different approach.

They are seeking to have the mines surveyed before sealing and are promoting the use of steel grates that can close a mine to human explorers but still allow bats to fly in and out.

(Washington Post)

Draw a shy child out of his shell by easing pressure

PARENTING

RUTH MASON

MY five-year-old is very popular with his peers, but he is so shy with adults that he will not talk to them unless they are relatives. His father was exactly the same at that age. Should we let him be, or should we try to change his behavior?

Yocheved Berlowitz, M.D., child and adult psychiatrist, responds:

Whether children are shy or extroverted depends on a number of factors including inborn temperament, family situation and cultural and social expectations. Even newborns are different from one another. Temperament is usually fairly consistent; a quiet, passive infant is less likely to become a screaming, difficult baby and it's not surprising that a shy child has a father who was shy. There are many variants of normal and that's what makes children interesting and diverse.

Adults can be very big and intimidating to small children, and sometimes an older child is not used to having bigger people around. If a child is generally well-adjusted, and being popular is one measure of that, I wouldn't be worried about his shyness. However, I would help him develop positive relationships with adults while minimizing stress and anxiety with them.

For example, I would introduce him to unfamiliar adult guests, rather than asking him to say hello. The idea is to take the pressure off of him. If you say, "Why don't you say hello to Aunt Bea," he'll feel more anxiety about performing the next time. The more comfortable he is, the more comfortable he will be speaking. I also would encourage nonverbal interaction with adult friends such as a short board game or a game of catch, so he can develop secure relationships with adults without the pressure of having to speak.

Parents of playmates should be informed of the difficulty and should ask both children together if they want juice or a snack. Gradually, the problem will probably diminish. If this is a problem in kindergarten, speak with the teacher and have her encourage your son to talk first in a



small group and only later in a larger group setting. And don't expect him to speak to her at the beginning of the school year.

How can I help make my children's classroom more creative and engaging?

Sandra Rief, an author and teacher who also trains educators in the San Diego, California, public schools, was here in May to participate in the international conference on research and practice on attention-deficit disorders. She answers:

Children need to be highly, actively involved in learning, and not just listen passively to the teacher or, as so often happens, to one child called upon to answer a question. This is one of the worst instructional techniques.

Research has shown that the most effective way to learn is cooperatively, meaning it is up to the teacher to pair up each pupil

with a partner with whom he or she works well. Then your child's teacher can say: "Turn to your partner and make a list of all the math problems you can think of with an answer of seven," or "Make a list of all the mammals you can think of."

The curriculum should be built around the children's interests, material needs to be presented in a variety of ways, and the children need to choose how to demonstrate their knowledge. They may put on a play, use art or write to show what they have learned.

Educators need to start structuring activities so pupils are participating all the time, but to do that, they need motivation, information and training. That's where you come in. Perhaps you can provide information, enlist other parents and, with them, persuade school administrators to provide training in cooperative learning. (Prof. Shlomo

Sharan of the School of Education, Tel Aviv University, and the Institute for the Promotion of Social Integration in the Schools, at Bar-Ilan University, both run cooperative learning workshops for teachers through school systems.)

Training in the method is necessary, but teachers and principals also need to be flexible enough to allow movement and interaction, and to allow children to use their natural problem-solving abilities. Moreover, teachers have to demonstrate to their pupils how cooperative learning works, and then have them practice it.

One teacher with great ideas may not be able to change the whole system if the rest of the school runs differently, but two teachers can work miracles. With training, they can demonstrate the new methods and get parental and administrative support for changing whole systems.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1995

US foreign trade
hits record deficit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The US foreign trade deficit shot up to \$43.62 billion in the April-June quarter, the worst performance in history.

The Commerce Department reported yesterday that the deficit in the nation's current account climbed 11.8 percent from a first quarter deficit of \$39.03b. It was the worst showing on record, topping the old mark of \$43.28b. set in the final three months of last year.

The current account is the broadest measure of America's trading performance, measuring trade in merchandise, services, investment flows and a category that includes America's foreign aid payments.

In brighter economic news, the Labor Department said Thursday that wholesale prices declined by 0.1% in August as the third straight drop in energy prices continued to hold inflation in check.

Wholesale prices also fell 0.1% in June and were unchanged in July. Analysts said the sharp slow-

down in the economy in the spring was helping to ease inflationary pressures at both the wholesale and retail levels.

Through the first six months of this year, the current account deficit is running at an annual rate of \$165.24b., well above last year's deficit of \$151.25b.

The bad news on the current account confirms the trend that has been apparent in the government's monthly trade statistics, which measure trade in merchandise and services but not the other categories.

America's worsening trade performance this year has come as something of a surprise to economists who believed that the slowing US economy would cut into demand for foreign goods.

Some analysts blamed the problem on the fact that the value of the dollar weakened considerably during the first half of the year.

Exports up 3%
But diamond sales fall 4.8%

Post Business Staff

INDUSTRIAL exports were up 3 percent last month, totaling some \$1.183 billion, as compared with the same period last year, the Industry and Trade Ministry reported yesterday.

However, the export of polished diamonds dropped some 4.8%, and totaled \$183 million. Without the diamond component, industrial exports in August reached \$1b., an increase of 4.6% over last year.

For the first eight months of 1995, industrial exports totaled \$10.519b., a 10% increase compared with the parallel period in

1994. Excluding diamonds, the sum was \$7.918b.

In August, an increase of 20% to 38% was registered in export of electronic components, business and office machines, engines, plastics and rubbers, and chemicals. Basic metals, jewelry, communications equipment, electronics and scientific and medical equipment, textiles, wood, furniture, paper grew from between 12% and 18%.

Exports dropped, however, in the minerals and mining sector, food and beverage sector, and transport machinery.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

American Online buys Ubiq: Ubiq has been acquired by America Online, Inc. America Online will use Ubiq's Virtual Places technology to enhance and expand its existing live on-line service and its new Internet service. Virtual Places is client-server software that humanizes the Internet's World Wide Web by allowing people to virtually meet and interact.

Post Business Staff

Tavot Doar Etc. has acquired the Israeli rights to Mail Boxes Etc., the world's largest franchisee of neighborhood postal, business and communications service centers. Tavot Doar plans to open a pilot center in Tel Aviv next spring, and hopes to eventually open 50 MBE centers in Israel.

Post Business Staff

Tadiran makes deal in Lithuania: Tadiran Telecommunications has won the right to supply rural digital systems to Lithuania's national operator, Lietuvos Telekomas. The systems will be supplied until the end of this year, with a possibility of further orders. Tadiran put in the winning bid in a tender against some of the world's leaders in the field.

Post Business Staff

Packer Steel expanding: Packer Steel has completed another stage of a planned NIS 18 million investment in infrastructure and development. Packer announced yesterday that subsidiary Packer Steel South has invested NIS 6m. in a new galvanizing production line for its Kiryat Malachi plant.

Rachel Neiman

BANN buys into Foraz: Software concern BANN Holland has invested \$2.2 million for a 40% share in Intelligent Networks, a Foraz Venture Capital company. The investment serves to deepen a cooperative agreement signed between BANN and Foraz for marketing and development whereby Intelligent Networks will adapt its products to BANN environment.

Rachel Neiman

CMS, Formula to cooperate: CMS, representatives of Hewlett Packard in Israel, and Formula Computer Technologies will cooperate in delivering overall computerization solutions to the local market. The agreement marks the continuation of HP Israel's strategy of expanding area activity through joint ventures.

Rachel Neiman

UK-based weekly MEEDMoney has listed Teva and Bank Hapoalim among the Middle East's top 10 valuable quoted companies. Bezek and Bank Leumi ranked 12th and 13th, and Koor was 20th on the comprehensive list of 200 companies.

Rachel Neiman

Mivtahim gets marketing: Mivtahim, the largest pension fund in the country, has recently established a marketing division in the framework of the company's organization and operational changes. Yoni Efe, former marketing manager of Hassneh, was appointed manager of the division.

Galit Lipkis Beck

Mortgage telephone service: First International Mortgage Bank will operate a telephone information service on mortgages. The service will provide general information on mortgages, with special emphasis on the bank's mortgage plans.

Galit Lipkis Beck

UPS Israel opens first branch: United Parcel Service Israel has opened its first branch in Mahanaim, in the north of the country. The branch was established as part of UPS agreement with Arkia. According to the agreement, UPS will manage and operate Arkia's cargo transport on the Tel Aviv-Kiryat Shmona route which involves eight flights.

Galit Lipkis Beck

D&B: 19% of
kibbutzim in debt
deal are high risk

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

NINETEEN percent of the kibbutzim that will be included in the kibbutz debt arrangement are in a high-risk ranking, according to a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) survey of the financial situation of the kibbutz movement.

D&B said 11% of the kibbutzim will be in a high-risk ranking after implementation of the arrangement. Under the arrangement, the debt-stricken kibbutzim will give up land in exchange for a debt write-off.

D&B's credit division conducted the survey of 208 kibbutzim, taking the following factors into

account: size of debt in relation to number of members, ability to repay debt, fields of activity, property, potential of real estate assets and part in debt-arrangement plan.

The survey reveals that debt-stricken kibbutzim that own expensive land, like Sdot Yam, Ga'ash and Tel Yitzhak will significantly improve their economic situation after implementation of the debt-arrangement plan. In contrast, kibbutzim with large debts and land in areas of low demand, will continue to be at high risk of collapse.



Palestinian-European Chamber of Commerce chairman Hanna Siniora (left), Palestinian Industry Ministry Director-General Saab Bamiah, and Manufacturers Association director Yoram Bilzovsky, chat at a conference in Jerusalem yesterday that brought together Israeli industrialists and their Palestinian counterparts. Issues discussed included setting up joint working groups in various industries, and holding a fair to acquaint Israelis with Palestinian industry.

(Hanan Grizitzky/Israel Sun)

Tivall looking to market frozen vegetables

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TIVALL is negotiating with local and foreign food manufacturers to develop and produce frozen vegetable products, Dan Propper, chairman of Tivall and manager of its parent company Osem, said yesterday.

Propper said the frozen vegetable products will be sold under the Assis brand label.

"With the addition of frozen vegetables Tivall will have a complete line of frozen food products, including vegetarian, meat and vegetable

goods," said Propper.

Tivall general manager Gazy Kaplan said the company plans to manufacture products that are not yet available on the local market. "We do not want to become a leader in the frozen vegetable market. We simply want to gain a share of the market," he said.

Kaplan added Tivall plans to introduce a

new range of products based on vegetables next month at the Anuga food festival in Cologne. Tivall is expected to end 1995 with total sales of NIS 90 million, including NIS 51m. in exports, mainly to Holland, England and the US. The company controls 42% of the vegetarian product market in Holland and 30% in England.

Osem purchased 50 percent of Tivall last year for \$8m.

'Foreign
insurance
firms will
enter market'

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE local insurance sector will experience major changes over the next two years with the entrance of foreign companies into the field, Rimona Ben-Shaul, head of the Insurance Companies Organization, predicted yesterday.

Speaking at the Elementary 95 insurance convention in Eilat, Ben-Shaul said overseas insurance firms will enter the local market as other multinational companies have as a result of the peace process.

There are currently 11 insurance firms operating here, and Ben-Shaul believes these firms will either have to cut down on expenses or merge with other companies to compete against foreign firms.

"Only firms with the most up to date data bases and state of the art computer systems will be able to survive and maintain their share of the market," said Ben-Shaul. "Today's customers have access to information, they are sophisticated and able to conduct proper market research. Only the companies that offer the most attractive insurance plans will be able to survive."

In another development, Police Minister Moshe Shauli told the convention he plans to submit a bill that will prohibit use of used auto products until they are three years old, in an attempt to combat car theft.

Chambers recommends
exposure to imports

RACHEL NEIMAN

EXPOSURE to imports, including food imports, should continue, the Chambers of Commerce said yesterday.

The chambers yesterday issued recommendations based on two year-long studies of exposure to imports in various trade sectors.

A committee appointed to study the issue of processed food imports recommended that taxes on processed foods whose import was not limited by the authorities should be lowered by 12 percent over a five-year period.

Also recommended was that processed foods whose import is limited or forbidden by the authorities should be permitted freely, though high protective tariffs of at least 100% would be initially be levied. Products in this category include cheese, dried fruits and olive oil. These would gradually be lowered over a seven-year period to final levels of between 12% and 20%.

The second report concerned implementation of the Uruguay

Round of the GATT agreement in the agricultural and processed food sectors. Israel has committed itself to canceling import limitations on those products as of January 1.

Products now limited include honey, meats, milk products, dried fruit and olive oil.

According to GATT, Israel is classified as a developing nation and may therefore levy high tariffs on processed foods and agricultural products. "In effect," the report said, "there will not be any real market exposure to imports."

Representatives of the Agriculture Ministry and farmers on the committee strongly objected to the Treasury's suggestion the pace of exposure be speeded up.

The committee listed the procedures giving locally manufactured goods an advantage over imports, such as the issue of import permits and the application of standards that are not applied to local products.

IEC
inaugurates
electric
junction

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Israel Electric Corporation yesterday inaugurated a \$151 million national electric junction at Caesarea. The project, adjacent to the Hadera power station, is part of the 400 kilovolt national carrier presently under construction.

At the inauguration ceremony yesterday, IEC board chairman Adi Amora said the station will "afford IEC better control over national electricity flow and distribution and will assist IEC during the upcoming winter."

Energy Minister Gonen Segal said the junction represents an additional step in IEC's plan to respond to increasing demand for electric power.

IEC general manager Rafi Peled said the junction was one of the world's largest and most sophisticated "and its planning is all blue and white."

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300 scientists decry
planned TAMI closure

RACHEL NEIMAN

THREE hundred scientists and researchers spoke out yesterday against the possible closure of TAMI, the research and development arm of Israel Chemicals (ICL).

ICL's board of directors is due to meet on Sunday to hear an analysis of TAMI, presented by a committee made up of ICL R&D managers. The committee was set up to examine TAMI's structure and relationship with subsidiaries.

TAMI workers yesterday appealed to several ministers, including Trade and Industry Minister Micha Harish, Science Minister Shulamit Aloni, and

Economics Minister Yossi Beilin to delay certain cost-cutting measures approved by ICL's board. The planned cuts, workers said, endanger the company's very existence.

Following the sale of a controlling interest in ICL to businessman Shaul Eisenberg, TAMI general manager Uri Eisner resigned.

"This is the most important national R&D institute for industrial chemicals but [due to the] wave of privatization sweeping Israel, the nation stands to lose an extremely important scientific data base," a representative for the TAMI workers committee said.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.95)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	5.000	5.000	5.125	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	4.750	4.875	
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.250	4.250	4.375	
Swiss franc (SF 250,000)	1.825	1.825	1.875	
Yen (10 million yen)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.9.95)				
CURRENCY AND TRANSFERS	BUY	SELL	BUY	SELL
Currency basket	3.4186	3.4751	3.4186	3.4751
U.S. dollar	3.0189	3.0394	2.98	3.02
German mark	2.0484	2.0793	2.01	2.11
Pound sterling	4.5538	4.7353	4.50	4.84
French franc	0.5921	0.6017	0.59	0.62
Japanese yen (100)	2.5992	3.0489	2.54	3.09
Dutch guilder	1.5275	1.5370	1.49	1.50
Swiss franc	2.4065	2.5339	2.45	2.58
Swedish krona	0.4257	0.4326	0.41	0.42
Norwegian krone	0.4988	0.4784	0.46	0.49
Denmark krone	0.5291	0.5391	0.52	0.55
Finnish mark	0.0911	0.0723	0.07	0.08
Canadian dollar	2.2422	2.2784	2.20	2.22
Australian dollar	2.2514	2.3334	2.25	2.32
S. African rand	0.5845	0.5378	0.53	0.54
Belgian franc (10)	0.5930	1.0111	0.57	1.03
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9108	2.9576	2.86	3.00
Italian lire (1000)	1.8984	1.8998	1.89	1.93
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	—
ECU	0.5298	0.5204	0.53	0.53
Irish punt	4.7592	4.9573	4.69	4.93
Spanish peseta (100)	2.9655	2.4343	2.95	2.47

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

הקדמת הארץ

Key Representative Rates

US dollar	NIS 3.0410	+0.03%
Sterling	NIS 4.7251	+0.27%
Mark	NIS 2.0649	-0.08%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York market indexes

Index	Value	Change
DJ Industrial	4747.91	+0.27
DJ 30	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Composite	4747.91	+0.27
NASDAQ	4747.91	+0.27
S&P 500	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Midcap	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Smallcap	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Microcap	4747.91	+0.27

Other stock market indexes

Index	Value	Change
NYSE 100	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Midcap	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Smallcap	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE Microcap	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE 200	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE 300	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE 400	4747.91	+0.27
NYSE 500	4747.91	+0.27

Israeli stocks in NY

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10

LIBOR RATES

Rate	Value	Change
3 months	5.50%	-0.01%
6 months	5.50%	-0.01%
12 months	5.50%	-0.01%
3 months	5.50%	-0.01%
6 months	5.50%	-0.01%
12 months	5.50%	-0.01%

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

US Commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude Oil	22.50	+0.10
Natural Gas	1.50	+0.05
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05

London commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude Oil	22.50	+0.10
Natural Gas	1.50	+0.05
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05

Spot market metals (US)

Metal	Price	Change
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05
Steel	1.50	+0.05

New York metal futures

Metal	Price	Change
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05
Steel	1.50	+0.05

London metal futures

Metal	Price	Change
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05
Steel	1.50	+0.05

US Commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude Oil	22.50	+0.10
Natural Gas	1.50	+0.05
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05

London commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude Oil	22.50	+0.10
Natural Gas	1.50	+0.05
Gold	350.00	+0.10
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.05
Aluminum	1.50	+0.05

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10

Two-sided trading

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10

Afternoon

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10

Morning

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Leumi	10.20	+0.10
Bank Hapoalim	10.20	+0.10
Bank Mizrahi	10.20	+0.10

Two-Sided Index

Index	Value	Change
Two-Sided Index	207.83	-0.81%
Maof Index	210.88	-0.85%

Shares fell for a second straight day amid concern that the burgeoning money supply figures and trade deficit will keep the Bank of Israel from cutting interest rates.

"Means of payment and credit were both up by 3.2% in August," said David Rosenberg, an analyst at Pacific Mediterranean. "That means the Bank of Israel is not going to be relaxing monetary policy."

The central bank last lowered the rate at which it lends to banks 0.3 percentage point to 13.2% in late July. The rate deficit climbed 26% in August from July to \$1.1 billion, as imports increased while exports remained stable.

"There is a concern there is too much consuming - both imported and local," said Rosenberg.

The Two-Sided Index fell 0.81% to 207.83, and the Maof Index fell 0.85% to 210.88. Across the exchange, about eight shares fell for every five that rose.

Shares worth some NIS 102.9m. changed hands today, NIS 9.9m. below Monday's level and about NIS 55m. below average levels three weeks ago.

"There were sellers, but there wasn't much buying support," said Rosenberg.

The rally in August was a surprise, people are wondering what to do now. The Two-Sided Index rose some 3% in August, and has risen about 3% so far this month.

Losses were led for a second day by Maof-listed Clal, which fell 2% and Koor, which fell 2.5%. "Koor and Clal were up this month, now they're coming down," said Rosenberg.

Prior to yesterday's losses, Koor's shares had risen some 13% and Clal's had risen some 4.8% this month.

Other decliners on the Maof included Bank Hapoalim, which fell 2%, Discount Investments, which fell 1%, and Teva, which fell 0.25%. In early trading, Teva's American Depository Receipts traded on Nasdaq were down 5/16 to 37 1/2.

Gainers on the Maof included IDB Holding, which rose 1%, Tadiran, which rose 0.75%, Bezeq, which rose 0.5%.

After trading in Tel-Aviv closed, the Amex/Oscar Gross Index 0.48 to 159.23. The index, which measures 11 companies traded in the US closed at an annual high of 158.75 on Monday. (Bloomberg)

UK shares fall

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Equities ended mostly easier as the market paused for breath after its recent record breaking run. Dealers expect the FTSE 100 to continue to consolidate in the near-term before attempting an assault on its all-time high.

"The market could go any way this week but once the latest round of corporate figures are out of the way the FTSE will tick up. We're not seeing any real sellers," one senior trader said.

The FTSE 100 which closed at a record high of 3,557.7 on September 6, finished 13.4 points lower at 3,535.9 after trading in a narrow nine point range throughout the session.

FRANKFURT - Car makers' strong performances today helped the German bourse end floor trading higher although some gains were erased in late trading.

The 30-share DAX index ended up 10.04 points at 2,270.83, after struggling off negative sentiment tied to Daimler Benz's worse-than-expected first-half loss of 1.56 billion marks at Daimler Benz posted on Monday.

But gains were pared in late session trading when the index closed at 2,266.07.

A stable dollar and a firm overnight close on Wall St. also helped to underpin the German market.

A leader was Volkswagen AG, ending late trading up two marks at 476 after the carmaker reached a wage pact overnight with the powerful IG Metall union to avert possible strikes.

The gains in Volkswagen, Europe's largest carmaker, also boosted fellow German carmakers at the start of the show, which analysts had expected to brighten the outlook for the industry.

"The market is watching the car show but I don't think people are looking for dramatic news out of the event but just a modest lift for the industry," said one Frankfurt trader.

PARIS - French shares finished up but off the day's best yesterday as buying in futures steered the cash market higher, traders said.

The CAC-40 index advanced 3.88 points, or 0.21 percent, to close at 1,873.56.

After a weak opening, on softer bonds and franc, the September contract rallied at 1,863 and headed upwards.

The market was not impressed by planned government measures to tax earnings from savings and investments, as part of its drive to stimulate spending.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks closed little changed after moving in a narrow range.

But brokers said shares in many construction and steel firms, which are expected to benefit from the government's economic package due next week, maintained their firm tone.

Profit taking after recent sharp gains capped the top, while buying on dips prevented declines, brokers said. Overall trade was not active, they said.

The 225-share Nikkei average closed down 13.94 points or 0.08% at 18,472.17 after moving in a range of between 18,673.92 and 18,442.19.

Dow breaks record

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Dow Jones industrial average ended at a record high yesterday, boosted by news that wholesale prices fell last month.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow index ended up 42.27 points at 4,747.21, which surpassed the old record high close of 4,736.29 set on July 27.

In the broader market, advancing issues led declines 13-8 on active volume of 343 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFR	FFr
MARK	2.289909	157.2133	1.872858	7.917504
STERLING	1.455572	0.635982	1.190825	5.034621
YEN	122.1230	0.533240	83.8904	4.224117
SFR	0.288883	0.128183	10.8267	0.288883
FFr	0.288883	0.128183	10.8267	0.288883

Prices from 23:50 local time

Barcelona humbles Hapoel Beersheba

ORI LEWIS

BEERSHEBA'S Catalanian love affair turned into a nightmare last night after the home side, Hapoel, was handed one of the most humiliating defeats in its history by Barcelona.

The 7-0 scoreline has put paid to any far-off dreams Beersheba might have had of causing an upset over the two legs of this UEFA Cup first round tie as their soccer was exposed at its most ineffectual by one of the world's top club sides.

Barcelona quite literally turned this match into a soccer form of inquisition as the hosts, who were unashamed to admit that they were overawed by the occasion, collapsed completely and allowed the Catalonians to turn this away venue into their own home fortress.

Viko Hadad, who had been hailed for his excellent leadership when Beersheba overcame SC Tirana of Albania with two victories in the preliminary round, had never bargained for such a poor performance from his own men. For much of the match, the Negev men, who are generally not known for giving much away at their home ground, literally let Barcelona run rings around them for much of the time.

Ivan de la Pena set the visitors on their way in the fourth minute of the match with a superb strike from a free kick from 20 meters out — why the Beersheba side only had four men in it is a mystery, but De la Pena showed that he is an ample replacement for Ronald Koeman as a taker of free kicks. Koeman is renowned for his fearsome goal-scoring ability in such situations, he left Barcelona at the end of last season.

After conceding the first goal,



NOT SO FAST — Thomas Helmer (5) of Bayern Munich struggles for the ball with Oleg Elisechov of Lokomotive Moscow during last night's UEFA Cup action.

the Beersheba side found a little of their composure, but for most of the time they gave the ball away after building up promising situations.

The difference in quality between the two sides was immediately apparent as Barcelona created threatening situations after only one or two moves; Beersheba needed to struggle to get the ball up front and once there, the

forwards, Sharon Avitan in particular managed to boot it up.

If Beersheba had thought they could hold their own and maintain a one-goal deficit and perhaps grab a shock equalizer, they received a rude reminder in added time of the first half, when Roger Garcia opened his account with a stunning 22-meter drive which left Shaul Smadja in the Beersheba goal completely

stranded.

Beersheba managed a few moments of creative play in the early stages of the second half when Arnan Zeilberlin, the Negev side's Latvian international showed some moments of inspiration. He was poorly supported by Sharon Avitan, however. The latter failed to live up to expectations and his family — his father, Shalom, was Beersheba's star

player for many years during the '70s and early '80s.

The visitors had the chance to increase the score after 48 minutes but Cordero hit the right up-right from a penalty after Carreras had been fouled in the area. Smadja would have had no chance of saving the shot, he dived in the opposite direction.

Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff completely turned the course of events with a double substitution on the hour, substituting his son, Jordi, and captain, Jose Maria Bakero with Oscar Garcia and Moreno.

From that point onwards, the match appeared to be played by only eleven men, with the other eleven falling about aimlessly as if they were part of a Monty Python silly walks competition. For not only had the Beersheba side given up any hope of reducing the deficit, they apparently decided there was no point in even completing the match.

Oscar Garcia scored from a header on 62 minutes and the floodgates opened completely.

Luis Figo added the first of his two goals three minutes later and Roger Garcia added his second after another two minutes.

Roger completed his hat-trick with another cracking drive on 78 minutes and Figo his second nine minutes from the end in another stunning shot which left Smadja totally stunned.

Results of UEFA Cup first round, first leg soccer matches:

In Munich: Bayern Munich (Germany) v. Lokomotive Moscow (Russia) 1-0 (0-0). Score: Charkatchev (71st). In Vladikavkaz: Spartak Vladikavkaz (Russia) 1, Liverpool (England) 2 (1-1). Score: Spartak Vladikavkaz — Minsheidi Kasymov (20th), Liverpool — Steve McManaman (33rd), Jamie Redknapp (53rd). In Volgograd: PFC Volga Volgograd (Russia) 0, Manchester United (England) 0.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Yankees win — unassisted

The New York Yankees did not record an assist in their 4-0 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Monday night, the fourth time that has happened in major league history and the second time it involved these teams.

Jack McDowell, who threw a four-hitter, had eight strikeouts. In addition, there were two grounders to first baseman Don Mattingly, who made the plays unassisted, and 17 flies, pop-ups and line outs.

The last time it happened, the only time in National League history, was when the New York Mets did it against Philadelphia on June 25, 1989.

The St. Louis Browns were the first team to do it, on August 8, 1943, in a game against Cleveland. The Indians went without an assist on July 4, 1945, in the first game of a doubleheader against the Yankees.

AP

Schumacher, Hill crash — then bury hatchet

Formula One world champion Michael Schumacher does not envisage a lasting feud with Damon Hill following their collision in Sunday's Italian Grand Prix.

Schumacher, who had to be pulled away from Hill by track marshalls after the British driver's Williams had run into the back of his Benetton, said yesterday:

"When we're racing and competing, we all know that mistakes can happen. The most important thing is to admit those mistakes. When I next see Damon it will not be a problem for me to say hello to him and to shake hands."

Reuter

Southampton, Middlesbrough play to draw

LONDON (AP) — Southampton and Middlesbrough limped to a scoreless draw yesterday in the day's only Premier League match, keeping both clubs near the bottom of the tables.

The first half was mildly interesting as both Southampton's Matthew Le Tissier and Nick Barnby of Middlesbrough had control of the ball and — though no clear scoring strikes — had a few interesting chances.

In other British soccer games: Leicester 2, Port Vale 0; Birmingham 1, Stoke 1; Sunderland 3, Barnsley 0; Oldham 1, Ipswich 1; Reading 0, Grimsby 2; Sunderland 1, Portsmouth 1; Tranmere 2, West Brom 2; Watford 0, Crystal Palace 0. Sheffield United 2, Charlton 0.

MLB SCOREBOARD

MONDAY'S NL RESULTS: Montreal 5, New York 0; Pittsburgh 7, San Diego 3; St. Louis 13, San Francisco 4; Cincinnati 2, Florida 1 (11); Chicago 12, Los Angeles 1; Colorado 4, Atlanta 4 (12).

MONDAY'S AL RESULTS: New York 4, Cleveland 0; Detroit 3, Toronto 2 (10); Baltimore 10, Boston 7; California 4, Chicago 1; Minnesota 12, Seattle 10.

Mac. TA's tennis team draws with Hapoel TA to win league title

HEATHER CHAIT

MACCABI Tel Aviv's tennis team needed to draw to win the league in yesterday's final at the Hapoel Tel Aviv courts, and they just managed it.

In a Tel Aviv derby against the host team, the Maccabians were behind 1-2 after the singles play but Eyal Ran and Raviv Weidenfeld pooled their efforts in the doubles match to ensure a draw and the title.

Their victims in the deciding match were Gilad Bloom and Noam Behr who succumbed 6-3, 7-6(7-3). With Ran, Bloom and Behr all in the Davis Cup squad to play Slovenia next week in Ramat Hasharon, the unexpected singles results are likely to sway captain Shlomo Glickstein's choice of players for the tie.

Bloom, Israel's erstwhile top player, had an easy time against Ran, the usurper of his crown, in the first singles, winning 7-5, 6-3. For Bloom, in the closing stages of his professional career and ranked 331 in the IBM/ATP listings against Ran's 201, this result is sure to boost his confidence.

Hapoel's Behr (451) had a straightforward victory against Ofer Sela (506), winning 6-3, 6-4. The only singles triumph for Maccabi came from Weidenfeld who dismissed Amit Ben David 7-5, 6-3.

Third and fourth places went to Carmel Haifa and Hapoel Lod respectively with Eyal Ertich's team from North Maccabi Tel Aviv slotting into fifth spot in the league.

NBA players support union

Season expected to start on time

NEW YORK (AP) — The efforts to decertify basketball's union failed yesterday by an overwhelming margin, paving the way for labor peace in the National Basketball Association.

In an election held by the US National Labor Relations Board, 226 players voted to decertify the union and 134 voted to decertify. The election clears the way for the player representatives to approve a new labor contract today in Chicago and for owners to approve it Monday in New York.

"Obviously, we're pleased about the results," said Russ Granik, the league's deputy commissioner. "It demonstrates they will make up their own minds about their own destiny and not be controlled by a group of agents and outside lawyers."

In June, the union leadership had struck a deal with the league but a group of agents, who represented Michael Jordan and Pat-

rick Ewing among others, forced players to table the vote and started the union decertification effort.

In August, the union and the NBA struck a modified deal that was slightly more favorable for the players but still closed many of the loopholes in the league's salary cap. That agreement is the one scheduled for a vote today.

Daniel Silverman, the NLRB's New York regional director, said the results will not be official until September 19. The losing side may file objections to the way the vote was conducted. The NLRB would then take four to six weeks to determine whether the objections are valid.

If the deal is approved, NBA owners are expected to lift the lockout they began July 1. If that happens, training camps would open October 6 and the season would begin as scheduled on November 3.

Packers' passing trips up Bears

CHICAGO (Reuter) — Brett Favre threw three first-half touchdowns passes, including a 99-yarder to Robert Brooks, and the Green Bay Packers held on for a 27-24 victory over the Chicago Bears on Monday night.

Brooks scored a pair of touchdowns and Craig Hentrich kicked two field goals for the Packers.

Hentrich's second field goal gave the Packers a 27-7 lead midway through the third quarter before the Bears mounted a comeback. A touchdown pass from Erik Kramer to lineman Jim Flanagan and an eight-yard scoring run by rookie Rashawn Sa-

lam cut the deficit to six points. A blocked punt by Anthony Marshall gave the Bears the ball at the Green Bay 3, but Salaam gained nothing on two carries and a pass from Kramer to Jeff Graham was ruled out of bounds.

Kevin Butler kicked a field goal, but Chicago's final possession ended when Reggie White hit Kramer, forcing a fumble that linebacker Wayne Simmons recovered.

Favre's 99-yd. pass was the longest in Packers history, surpassing a 96-yarder in 1950 from Tobin Rote to Billy Grimes. Both teams are 1-1.

Tarango upsets Stich

BUCHAREST (AP) — Second-seed Michael Stich of Germany was eliminated by unheralded American Jeff Tarango yesterday, in the first surprise of the \$1.38 million Romanian Tennis Open.

It took a little over an hour and a half for Tarango, ranked 60 by the ATP, to beat Stich 7-6(7-5), 6-3 at Bucharest's Progresul clay arena in the first tie-break match of the ATP tournament.

Austria's Thomas Muster (1) played hard and finished the first set with a superb ace to squash Spain's Tomas Carbonell 6-4, 6-4 in a close match. The Spaniard,

ranked 79 by the ATP, narrowly failed to equalize the Austrian in the fourth game of the second set.

Muster is to play Cedric Pioline of France in a second-round match today. He is slated to participate in the Eisenberg Israel Open this fall.

Meanwhile, Steffi Graf, fresh off her victory at the US Open, will not play in the WTA tournament in Leipzig, organizers said yesterday.

In other news, Israel's Anna Smashnova, coming off a first round defeat in the US Open, dropped 16 places to No. 74 in the ATP rankings.

Quality Classifieds

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KIRIAT ONO — au pair to care for boy 4 months — house

South African FM arrives to forge new ties

SOUTH African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo arrived here last night, marking the first top-level visit of an official representing President Nelson Mandela's government.

Officials on both sides say the visit marks a turning point in a relationship that has been strained over the new South Africa's association of Israel having been tied to the old regime in Pretoria.

Assuming this trip goes well, sources expect Mandela to pay a visit to Israel as well.

The two countries were once joined together, when both were

shunned by a large segment of the international community. Both are now sought after as regional powers, due to peace moves taken by each country in the last couple of years, these officials note.

A South African official said yesterday that Nzo's visit should be seen as the new South Africa wanting to be supportive of the Middle East peace talks. Apart from meeting senior Israeli officials, Nzo will also meet PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza on Friday.

The African National Congress, of which Nzo was a senior

DAVID MAKOVSKY

official, has longstanding ties with the PLO.

Sources say the Foreign Ministry has so far been unsuccessful in prevailing upon Nzo from making a visit to Orient House in eastern Jerusalem.

South African officials have been urging their Israeli hosts not to vocally protest the visit in the media, and in return have promised a quick courtesy call, sources say.

One issue likely to be raised during Nzo's visit is Pretoria's decision to store Iranian oil, a move

that has raised the US opposition. During a recent visit to Gaza, Economics Minister Yossi Beilin apparently sought to press Arafat that he should oppose such a move by South Africa because of Tehran's support of Hamas. Beilin figured such a denunciation would carry special weight with Pretoria, given the ties between the PLO and the ANC, but Arafat apparently did not accept the idea.

On bilateral issues, officials say they expect Israel to intensify its training and technical assistance

for South Africa.

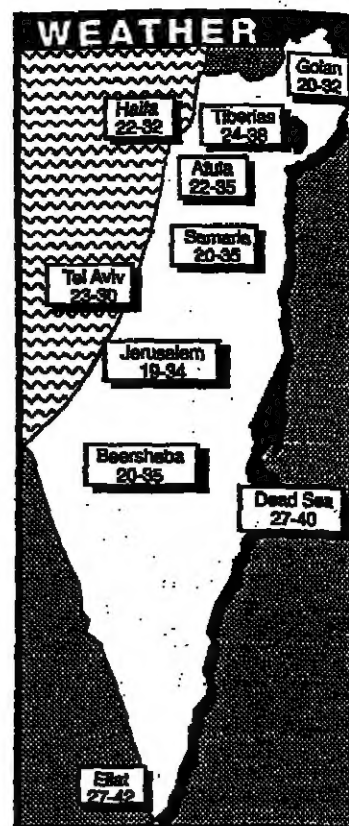
In particular, Pretoria is seeking international assistance for its Reconstruction and Development Program. The plan is to build permanent housing for poor South Africans living in townships. To that end, Nzo is scheduled to visit Modi'in tomorrow so he can learn more about Israeli housing techniques.

With both sides keen on defining the parameters of the new relationship, Israel and South Africa will sign a framework accord that will lead to enhancing cooperation in the fields of tourism, agriculture, culture, environment

and trade. Nzo will likely be accompanied to some meetings by about a dozen South African businessmen currently visiting the country.

While South African officials insist it was not planned this way, coincidentally the South African military chief of staff, Gen. George Meiring, is also visiting the country, as guest of IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

Israel's security ties with the old regime were extensive, but South African officials insist they do not foresee any major arms sales at this time.



AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	12	18	cloudy
Berlin	12	18	cloudy
Brussels	12	18	cloudy
Chicago	12	18	cloudy
Copenhagen	12	18	cloudy
Frankfurt	12	18	cloudy
Geneva	12	18	cloudy
Hamburg	12	18	cloudy
London	12	18	cloudy
Madrid	12	18	cloudy
Moscow	12	18	cloudy
New York	12	18	cloudy
Paris	12	18	cloudy
Rome	12	18	cloudy
Stockholm	12	18	cloudy
Switzerland	12	18	cloudy
Toronto	12	18	cloudy
Vienna	12	18	cloudy
Zurich	12	18	cloudy

Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 7, 15, 21, 34, 44, 47 and the additional number was 14.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, ace of hearts, king of diamonds, and jack of clubs.

Jewelry store owner remanded for tax scam

RAINE MARCUS

A JEWELRY store owner, suspected of operating a NIS 30 million tax scam involving forged invoices, was remanded yesterday for three days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

According to tax investigators, 28-year-old Moshe Ya'acov contacted jewelry factory owner Meir Stern and suggested that the latter supply him with forged invoices.

Stern was also arrested for his alleged part in the affair, and was remanded for three days after admitting his involvement in the scam.

According to investigators, Ya'acov registered the sums on the invoices into his balance sheets. He allegedly used the invoices to purchase hundreds of kilograms of gold on the black market, which was smuggled here from abroad. The gold, said investigators, was sold by Ya'acov to dealers for millions of shekels.

Investigators said in court that the scam was one of the "largest of its kind" in recent years, and that the release of Ya'acov could jeopardize the investigation and possible arrests of other suspects. Several other company directors will be questioned shortly, they said.

Schneerson honored

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton presented the Congressional Gold Medal posthumously yesterday to Lubavitch's long-time leader, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

Clinton told 20 of the movement's officials in the Oval Office that "the impact of his contribution is being felt beyond the Lubavitch community and members of your faith - indeed by the entire country."

In conjunction with the award, which was approved by Congress last year, a gold medalion struck by the Treasury Department and bearing Schneerson's likeness was unveiled.

Ex-collaborator files NIS 6m. suit against state

RAINE MARCUS

A FORMER collaborator filed a NIS 6 million lawsuit against the state in Haifa District Court yesterday for what he described as irreparable damage done to him by the General Security Service.

The former resident of the territories, who said he helped the GSS in Judea and Samaria during the intifada, claimed the state betrayed his identity. As a result, he said, he has become a target for Palestinian attacks and his life is in danger.

His house and store have already been torched, he said, and he was kidnapped by Hamas activists, who demanded he redeem himself by carrying out a terror attack against Israelis.

In his lawsuit, he claimed that he had helped numerous investigations of terror activities and had brought about the arrests of Hamas terrorists.

In return, he said, the GSS promised to provide for his future and pledged to keep his identity secret.

Family members who still live in the territories have been made outcasts and are also in danger. He cannot earn a living, he added, since employers do not want to hire him. The state is obliged to ensure his financial welfare and security, he added.

Yesterday's action is a precedent, which may encourage other collaborators to follow suit, Jaffa neighborhood activist Solomon Mashrawi said yesterday.

"Israel must help these people and cannot deny them their rights," he said. "This man had every right to sue."

But, he added, Israeli Arabs in a mixed city like Jaffa do not want them either.

Mashrawi himself is a former police informer, but he said there is no comparison between his acts "which helped prevent crime in Jaffa" and collaborators' "betrayal of their people, under Israeli occupation."

According to Mashrawi, there are around 200 collaborator families living in Jaffa today, and an additional 100 individual collaborators, including 10 single women. They are shunned by both Jews and Arabs, and many of them are involved in crime, said Mashrawi.

"The state has no right to try and integrate them in a mixed city with its own fair share of problems," he said. "Their children, although not to blame for their parents' acts of betrayal, have not studied in schools for years, so the educational system cannot expect them to learn together with our kids."

Jaffa Arabs have financial and social problems and the presence of collaborators only serves to emphasize those difficulties, he added.

"It is hard for me to see a collaborator being given an apartment when residents here have their own housing problems," he said.



A Chechen woman and her child are among 45 refugees who arrived here yesterday on a special Jewish Agency flight from the Caucasus city of Mineralny Vody. Another 50 immigrants from the Dagestan region also arrived. Since November 1994, some 200 Chechen refugees have arrived in Israel. Approximately 120 Chechen Jews still remain in Mineralny Vody, and are expected to immigrate to Israel this month. Only about 15 Jews remain in Grozny. (Aron Rof/Israel Sun)

Bill would permit US-PLO contacts for another 18 months

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

US-PLO contacts would be permitted to continue for an additional 18 months under a new law that advanced in the Senate foreign operations subcommittee yesterday.

The bill was adopted from the version submitted July 21 by Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms. It grants the president up to three six-month waivers of laws that would otherwise prohibit US relations with the PLO.

The new version of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act will be considered tomorrow by the full appropriations committee.

It has been attached to the foreign aid bill that provides \$12.3 billion to various countries through the Agency for International Development, including \$3 billion for Israel. The House of Representatives earlier this summer passed its own aid bill.

Congressional sources said yesterday that because the Senate wanted to conclude the new MEPPA bill, it was not attached, as originally planned, to another Helms bill that aimed to slash AID, the US Information Agency and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. That bill invited a White House veto, which would have doomed the MEPPA bill with it.

An administration official said yesterday the US supports the 18-month extension but remains concerned that Helms might turn his back on his own bill to deflect criticisms from the right that the bill is too lenient with the PLO.

Still, the official said, "we're obviously pleased to have a long-term extension in play. We obviously wanted to go off the short-term fixes." The most recent 45-day extension of MEPPA is due to expire September 30.

Meanwhile, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman MK Orr yesterday urged their support for the Helms bill. Orr, who is visiting here under the auspices of Americans for Peace Now, was scheduled to meet with House International Relations Committee Chairman Benjamin Gilman and Senate Near East subcommittee chairman Hank Brown and the panel's ranking Democrat Dianne Feinstein.

In a briefing for journalists at the National Press Club, Orr said that concluding final borders with the Palestinians is ultimately more important than whether the Palestinian entity becomes a state.

He also stated that while Jerusalem will remain Israel's capital, "maybe we and the Palestinians can come up with new ideas" for resolving the fate of the city. He later denied that he was alluding to a power-sharing arrangement between Israelis and Palestinians.

Abductor caught at Ben-Gurion

RAINE MARCUS

TEL AVIV'S central detective unit arrested a man at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday morning, as he was allegedly about to kidnap his 11-year-old daughter to their native Russia.

Police said the man, 35, immigrated with his wife and two daughters some four years ago. The couple then got divorced, and according to an agreement, the eldest daughter, 13, stayed with her father, who returned with her to Russia. The younger daughter lives with her mother in Givatayim.

According to police, the man arrived here a few days ago intending to abduct his second daughter back to Russia. Yesterday morning he arrived at his former wife's home, and after checking the area to ensure he was not being followed, waited for his daughter to leave for school.

The man stopped his car on the way and the girl, surprised to see her father, got in. Police had been tipped off about the intended abduction, and waited for the pair at the airport beyond passport control. The man was arrested, as was another man who came to get collect the car used for the abduction.

Labor sets July 18 for primary

SARAH HONIG

THE Labor Party has earmarked July 18 for the primary in which its members will choose their Knesset candidates, less than four months before the national election in November 1996.

The party had originally planned to hold the primary contest in mid-April, as the national election campaign is slated to open in mid-August, thus leaving Labor with a very tight schedule.

However, Labor is believed to have opted for the July date to prevent rebellion in the ranks, or even defection.

Senior Labor Party officials believe many in the party's present Knesset contingent will be unsuccessful in the primary, turning them into lame duck parliamentarians. This could lead them to ignore party discipline, or bolt Labor altogether.

However, if the primary is held near the election, the danger of insurrection is minimized, and the potentially rebellious MKs can do little damage once the Knesset is already set to disband.

Another consideration is to make it politically impossible for Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon to further postpone his decision about returning to Labor.

By holding the primary late, Labor does not leave Ramon with the option of waiting until the last minute to decide if he will go with Labor, since that would leave him with little time to organize his own ticket.

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